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Reference	IOR/R/15/1/113
Title	'Book No 157 Old Index From May 1847 To November 1849' Vol 157 Secret letters outward
Date(s)	22 May 1847-30 Nov 1849 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 volume (140 folios)
Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
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About this record

The volume contains copies of letters sent by Major Samuel Hennell, British Political Resident in the Persian Gulf at Bushire, mainly to Arthur Malet, Secretary (later Chief Secretary) to the Government of Bombay in the Secret Department, at Bombay Castle.

Their correspondence discusses events in the Persian Gulf between 1847 and 1849 and their significance for British foreign policy, relations and interests in the region. The main topics of discussion are: anti-slavery measures and the ambitions of both the Ottoman Turkish Government and the Persian Government, to extend their influence and authority over Bahrain and other Arab Maritime Chieftdoms of the Trucial Coast.

Many of the enclosures referred to by the Resident in his letters to the Bombay Government and others, are present in the volume. Copies of the Resident's Arabic correspondence with British Government native agents and ruling sheikhs, as well as his copies of correspondence between Ottoman Turkish and Persian officials, are in the form of English translations only and comprise:

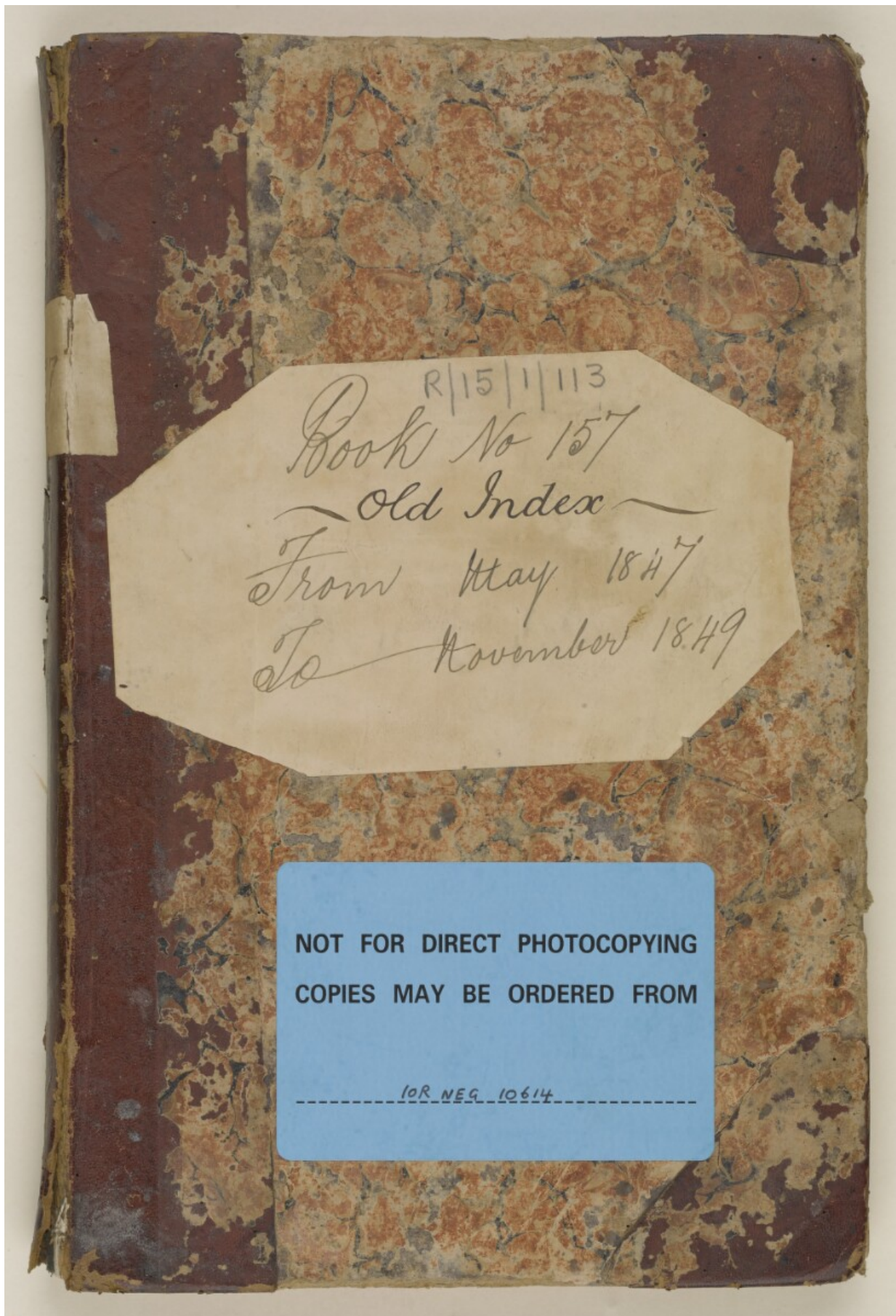
- Letter of friendship from the Ottoman Governor of Bussorah [Basra] to Sheikh Mahomed bin Khuleefa [Shaikh Muḥammed bin Khalīfah Āl Khalīfah] the Chief of Bahrein, inviting the latter to put himself under the protection of Turkey (folios 10-11);
- Letter from Hajee Yacoob, British Government Pilot at Kharg [Khārk], reporting the intelligence gathering activities of Ottoman Turkish officials in Koweit [Kuwait] (folios 11-12);
- Letter from the Governor of Bunder Abass [Bandar-e 'Abbās] enquiring about an alleged request made by the Imam of Muscat, to transfer to British protection, Bunder Abass and other lands in the Persian Gulf leased to him by Shah of Persia (folio 31);
- Letters from the British Government Native Agent at Muscat, reporting cases of public sale and purchase of slaves in the ports of Muscat, in contravention of the anti-slavery provisions of the Treaty of 1845 between Muscat and Great Britain (folios 36-38, 48-49);
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Letters from Mirza Abdool Jubbar [Mirza Abdul Jabbar], the Persian Consul at Bagdad [Baghdad] to Abdullah ben Ahmed [‘Abdullāh bin Aḥmad Āl Khalīfah] the former Chief of Bahrein, to Ali and Mahomed [Alī bin Muḥammad Āl Khalīfah and Muḥammad bin ‘Abdullāh Āl Khalīfah] the sons of the present ruler of Bahrein, Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa about the desire of the Persian Government to establish its authority over Bahrein (folios 51-55); • Letter from the British Government Native Agent at Shargah [Sharjah] reporting the renewed importation of slaves into Lingah, in contravention of the Imperial firmans (royal decrees) and orders issued by the Persian authorities, prohibiting the maritime slave trade in their ports on the Persian Gulf (folios 61-62); • Exchange of letters between the British Political Resident and Syed Soweeynee [Sayyid Thuwaynī bin Sa‘īd Āl Bū Sa‘īd] Governor of Muscat, regarding alleged Persian aggression against Bunder Abass and other lands on the Persian coast of the Gulf, belonging to the Imam of Muscat (folios 66-68); • Exchange of letters of friendship between the British Political Resident and Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa, Chief of Bahrein (folios 74-76, 84); • Exchange of letters between the British Political Resident and Sheikh Syed Humood ben Azan [Ḥamūd bin Azan Āl Bū Sa‘īd] the Chief of Sohar [Ṣuḥār] and the agreement with the British Government, signed by his son Syed Syf ben Humood [Sayyid Syf bin Ḥamūd Āl Bū Sa‘īd] on 22 May 1849, prohibiting the African slave trade in the ports of Sohar (folios 79-81).

- Letter of friendship from the Ottoman Governor of Bussorah [Basra] to Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa [Shaikh Muḥammad bin Khalīfah Āl Khalīfah] the Chief of Bahrein, inviting the latter to put himself under the protection of Turkey (folios 10-11);
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- Letters from the British Government Native Agent at Muscat, reporting cases of public sale and purchase of slaves in the ports of Muscat, in contravention of the anti-slavery provisions of the Treaty of 1845 between Muscat and Great Britain (folios 36-38, 48-49);
- Letters from Mirza Abdool Jubbar [Mirza Abdul Jabbar], the Persian Consul at Bagdad [Baghdad] to Abdullah ben Ahmed [‘Abdullāh bin Aḥmad Āl Khalīfah] the former Chief of Bahrein, to Ali and Mahomed [Alī bin Muḥammad Āl Khalīfah and Muḥammad bin ‘Abdullāh Āl Khalīfah] the sons of the present ruler of Bahrein, Sheikh Mahomed ben Khuleefa about the desire of the Persian Government to establish its authority over Bahrein (folios 51-55);
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The volume also contains copies of several letters from the Resident to: Major Henry Creswicke Rawlinson, British Political Agent for Turkish Arabia at Bagdad; Lieutenant-Colonels Justin Sheil and Francis Farrant, British Minister Plenipotentiary and British Chargé d’Affaires respectively, at the Court of the Shah of Persia, Tehran; Commodore Hawkins, commanding the Indian Naval Squadron in the Persian Gulf. The

correspondence discusses similar topics, including the merits of seeking an extension of the anti-slavery orders issued by the Ottoman Porte, to allow for the confiscation of foreign Persian and Arab slave ships in Turkish waters, as well as native Turkish slave ships.



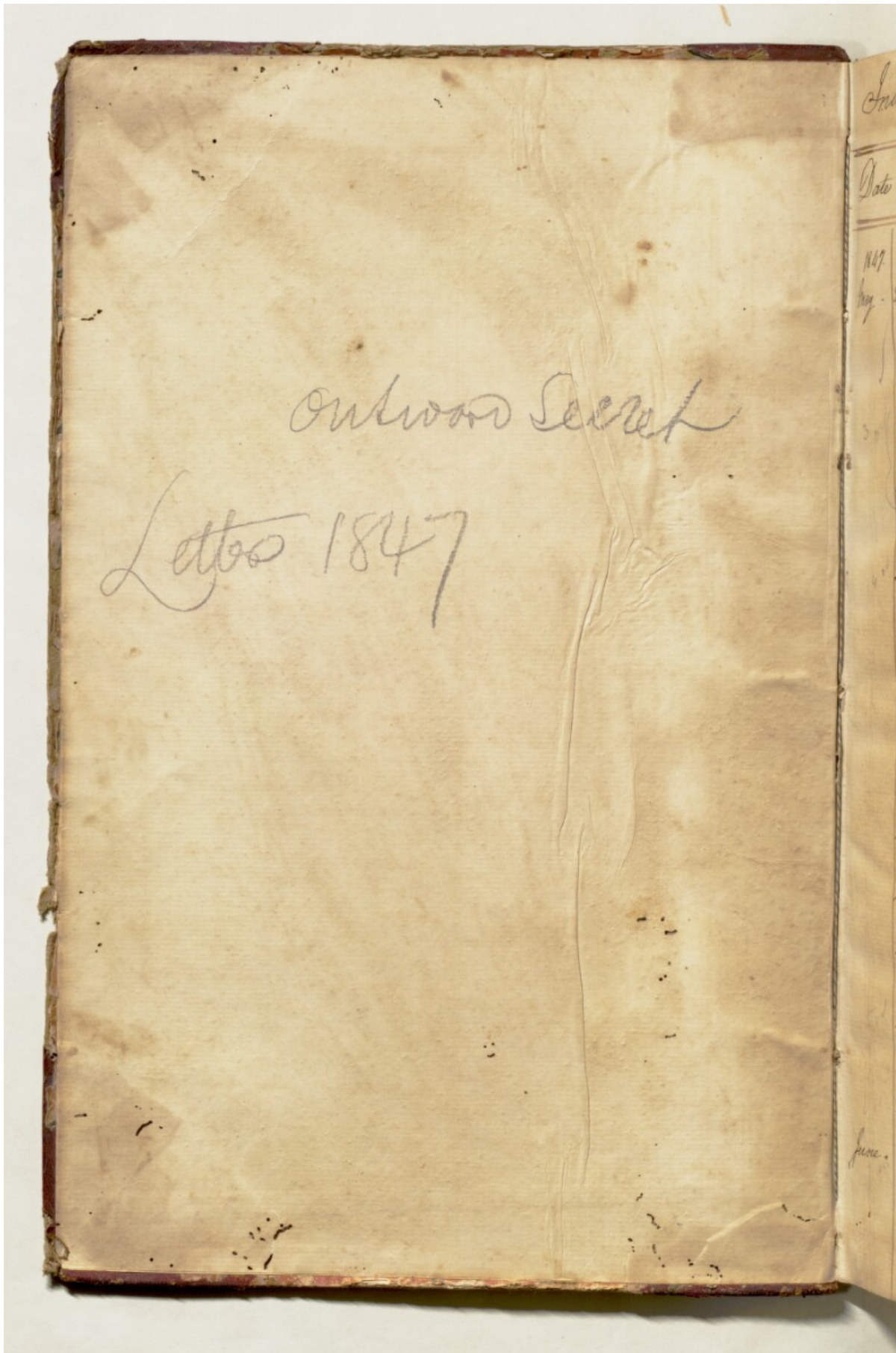








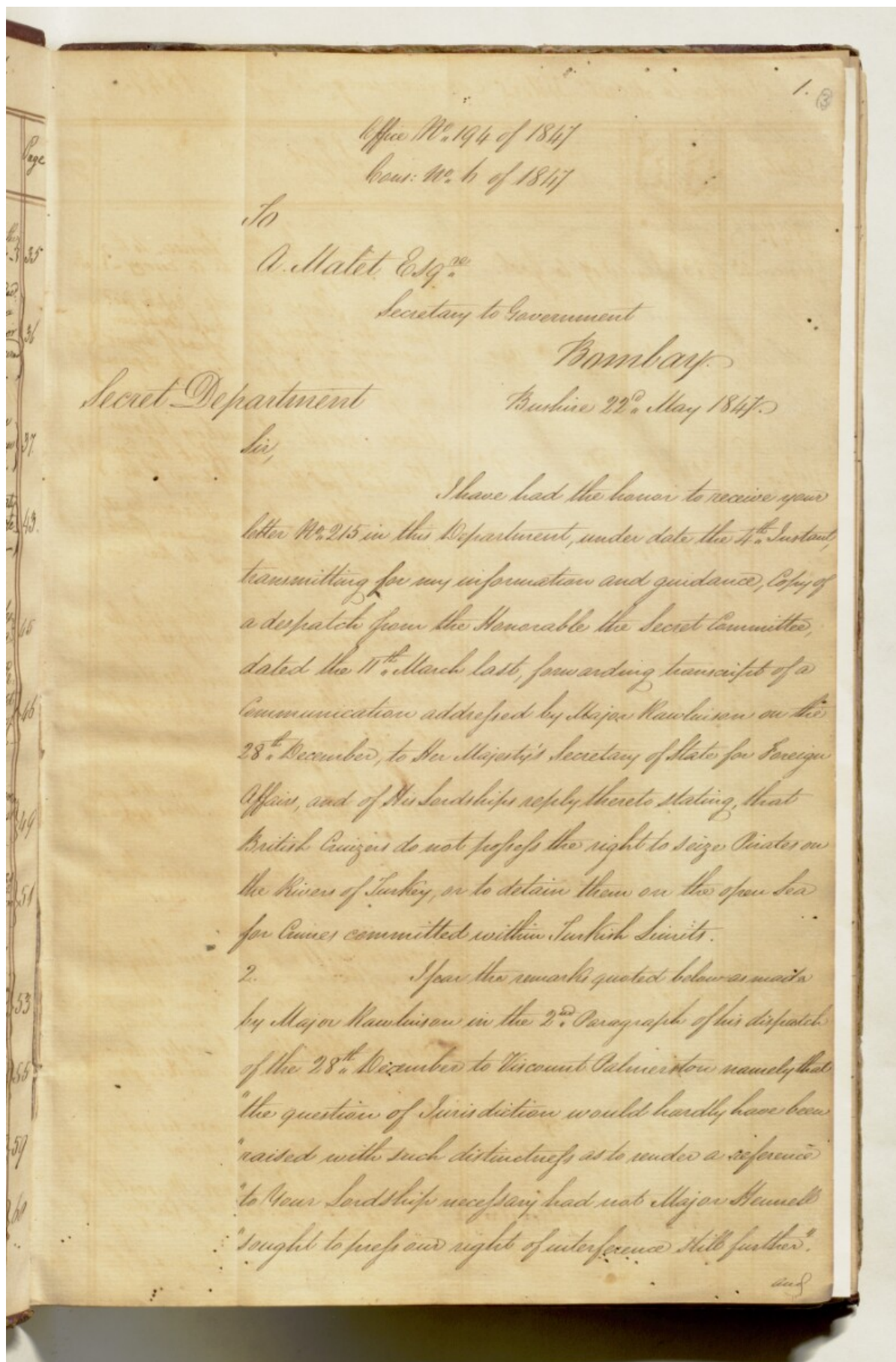






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Date	Open Number	Cons: No.	To	Subject	Page	
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See





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and that, I have not ventured to make a formal demand
to this effect; although several times addressed by Major
"Hennell on the subject," may lead the Honorable the Governor
in Council to conclude, that I have been carrying on an
Official Correspondence with the Political Agent of Bagdad,
on the important point of our Cruizers being permitted
to pursue Arab or Persian Pirates into Turkish Waters,
without laying the same before Government. I think
it right therefore to prevent misconception, to state,
that the suggestions made by me to Major Rawlinson
on this subject, were communicated incidentally in the
course of a private correspondence. I was fully aware
that by the strict rules of international Law no such
right could be claimed, but conceived that our objects
for the suppression of Piracy in these quarters would be
promoted, were the Pasha of Bagdad inclined to concede
this privilege to us. So soon however as Major Rawlinson
privately pointed out to me the inconveniences of
attempting to acquire such an authority, I modified my
opinion, and an Official letter was addressed by me
to him on the 1st March last No. 111 merely suggesting
the advantage of orders being obtained from His Highness
Mejid Pasha for the seizure and surrender of Persian &
Persian Vessels which might seek refuge on the Euphrates.
I have now the honor to enclose a Copy of this dispatch 11/2/
for the information of the Honorable the Governor in
Council



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Council together with a transcript of Major Paulsen's
reply thereto.

3. I confess, that misled by the invariable
course of our Policy in the Gulf of Persia for the last twenty
six years, I have been under the erroneous impression,
that in taking cognizance of a breach of Treaty on the
part of an Arab Chief, even did such breach occur within
the limits of a Foreign Jurisdiction, we did not interfere
upon international Law in calling him to account for
so doing. At the same time in acknowledging this mis-
conception, under which I have been hitherto laboring,
I venture most respectfully to remark that the strict
application of the principles of this Law, as in force
among European Nations, to our relations with the
uncivilized and warlike Tribes of the Maritime Arabs
inhabiting the Shores of the Persian Gulf is likely to be
productive of serious results.

4. Of the complete success attending the line
of Policy that for the last quarter of a century has guided our
measures in this quarter for the suppression of a system
of slaughter and piracy, the mere remembrance of which
for years rendered the Persian Gulf a byword among
the neighbouring countries, no better proof need be sought
than the profound tranquillity now reigning throughout
that Sea, and the very rare occurrence of any acts of
outrage or robbery. In the advantages of this happy
change



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change I may remark for parenthesis, no countries have
partaken more largely than those of Turkey and Persia.
These benefits have however, been attained only by a steady
perseverance to the two general principles of holding every
Chief responsible for the acts of his Subjects, and punishing
over no case of piracy or outrage however trivial, without
extracting full reparation for the same. In carrying out
these views for a long series of years, the maritime
surveillance of the Persian Gulf has hitherto been scantily
conceded on all sides to our naval force, and no act of
aggression or robbery whether occurring on the open sea,
or within the waters of Persia or Turkey in this quarter
has taken place that as a matter of course, immediate application
has not been made to the British Resident to enforce redress
from those Chiefs with whom we have treaties granting us
power for this purpose, or to seek it through the constituted
authorities of those States which have not conceded to
us this privilege.

5. In again repeating that the successful
result of our endeavours has been mainly owing to our
determined and persevering suppression of every species of
Maritime aggression, and thus leading the minds of the Chiefs
away from plans and schemes of piracy and plunder to
the harmonizing pursuits of trade and commerce. I need
hardly show that to tribes so savage and uncultivated as
their perceptions as those which inhabit the Arabian and
Persian



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Persian Coast, the nice distinctions of our international
law would be quite incomprehensible. No explanation
we could give for the withdrawal of our surveillance
over their proceedings in foreign Waters, would remove
the impression that we had been compelled to make
this change by a diminution of our power and influence.
Of the weakness of both the Persian and Turkish Govern-
ments in every thing relating to the seas of this quarter
they are fully aware, and entertain the most profound
contempt for their Naval means of resisting or punishing
Maritime aggression. Were they once fully satisfied
that in cases of outrage or piracy in Turkish and Persian
Waters, they had only to apprehend the displeasure of those
Governments, and that the British had withdrawn from
all interference, I make no doubt that within the space
of no very long period of time the Commerce of Bosphorus
would be paralysed and the most severe injuries
inflicted upon the Trade of the Persian Ports. In fact,
that the River Euphrates would be absolutely closed to
the numerous peaceful Traders who now so continually
resort to it. How short a space the piracies and lawless
acts of which Turkish and Persian Waters would then
be the scene, were likely to confine themselves within
such limits, may easily be estimated by those acquainted
with the habits and characters of the Maritime Coast.
The Government is no doubt fully aware, that it is
in



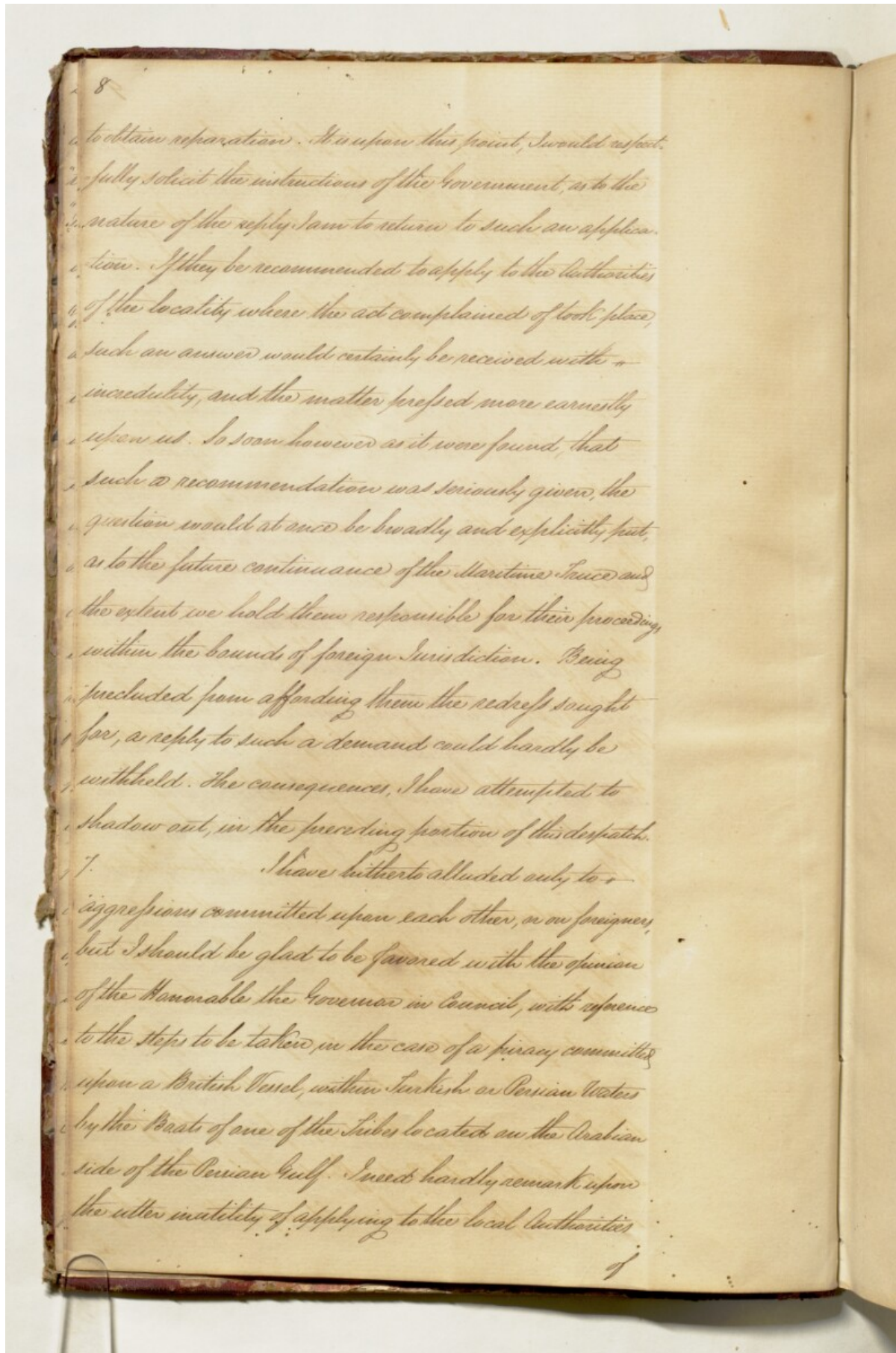
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in a great measure, by the force of opinion, that we are
now enabled to maintain peace and tranquillity throughout
a sea so extensive as the Persian Gulf, with out, ^{for} ~~two~~ small
fleets. But were the salutary impressions which have
prevailed ^{now} ~~once~~ broken up by the tacit permission to indulge
their predatory and lawless inclinations within foreign
limits, which would be afforded by our holding ourselves
aloof under such circumstances, the state of affairs would
speedily revert to ~~what~~ ^{what} it was prior to the Expedition against
the Pirate Ports in 1820, and necessarily involve the permanent
maintenance of a large and expensive Naval Force in
these seas, for the protection of our own Commercial Interests.

b. There is another point moreover on which
I feel much embarrassed, and upon which I would
respectfully solicit the instructions of the Government for
my future guidance. His Honorable Council is doubtless
aware, of the existence of a Maritime Truce for ten years
established between the principal Chiefs of the Arabian
Coast, under our guarantee. By the terms of this Truce,
of which six years still remain unexpired, the Arab
Shahs are bound not to retaliate any aggressions which
may be committed on the Vessels of their Subjects and
Dependants, and to seek redress through the medium
of the British Resident in this Quarter. This Truce has
hitherto been maintained with complete success, and
has been attended with the happiest results in the
increased



7
increased Commercial and local prosperity of the several
Members of it. In the few cases of outrage which have occurred
full reparation has been obtained, through the influence
of the Political Functionary, backed occasionally by the
presence of a Naval Force. Under the confidence inspired
by our guarantee, Tribes which carry on the most bitter
feuds on shore, and ruthlessly slaughter each other when
meeting in their Native Desert, will, when afloat, and
anchor their Vessels side by side, either on the Pearl
Banks, or on the Euphrates, without the slightest
attempt at injury or molestation. It is not to be supposed
that all the feelings of hatred and enmity which show
themselves so powerfully on land, are not equally active
when at Sea, but the firm conviction, that in case
of a collision, the offenders would be promptly punished
and the sufferers meet with full redress, on the case
being brought to the notice of the British Resident,
is sufficient to repress all exhibition of hostility. Could the
change which is henceforth to take place in our policy,
with reference to infractions of Treaty occurring within
foreign limits, be concealed from the knowledge of the
Tribes of the Persian Gulf, much less cause of apprehension
would exist, but I fear this would be impossible. The
first act of aggression within Persian or Persian Waters,
will, as provided for in the Maritime Truce, be
referred to me, with a demand for our interference
to



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to obtain reparation. It is upon this point, I would respectfully
solicit the instructions of the Government, as to the
nature of the reply I am to return to such an applica-
tion. If they be recommended to apply to the authorities
of the locality where the act complained of took place,
such an answer would certainly be received with
incredulity, and the matter pressed more earnestly
upon us. So soon however as it were found, that
such a recommendation was seriously given, the
question would at once be broadly and explicitly put,
as to the future continuance of the Maritime Truce and
the extent we hold them responsible for their proceedings
within the bounds of foreign Jurisdiction. Being
precluded from affording them the redress sought
for, a reply to such a demand could hardly be
withheld. The consequences, I have attempted to
shadow out, in the preceding portion of this despatch.

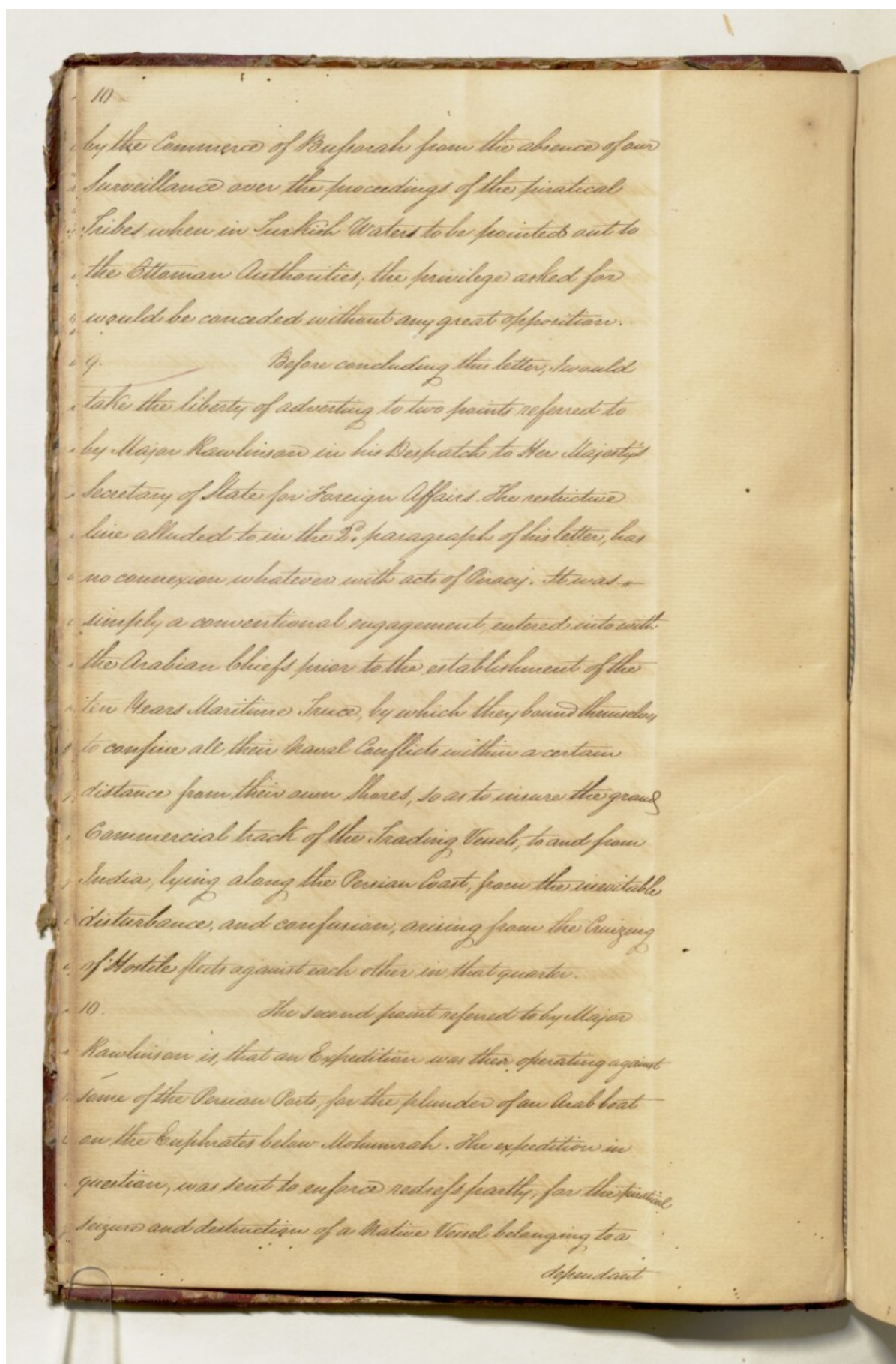
I have hitherto alluded only to
aggressions committed upon each other, or on foreigners,
but I should be glad to be favoured with the opinion
of the Honorable the Governor in Council, with reference
to the steps to be taken, in the case of a piracy committed
upon a British Vessel, within Turkish or Persian Waters
by the Pirates of one of the Tribes located on the Arabian
side of the Persian Gulf. I need hardly remark upon
the utter inutility of applying to the local authorities
of



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of Bagdad or Shiraz, to obtain redress for such an outrage,
and as I conceive, I am precluded by the orders conveyed
in your despatch now under reply, from taking
cognizance of an affair not committed on the open
sea, I am really at a loss as to the course I ought to
pursue under such circumstances.

8. I cannot but regret that this point of inter-
national law has been mooted, but since it has been raised,
I would respectfully suggest the expediency of endeavouring
to obtain from the Ottoman and Persian Governments,
the requisite permission for holding the Arabian
Maritime Chiefs (who are bound by treaty with us to
abstain from Piracy) responsible for such breaches of
their Engagements as may occur within Turkish and
Persian Waters. The National dignity would, it appears
to me, be so slightly compromised by such concession,
seeing that perhaps hardly one case in a hundred
of its exercise would become known to them, that I
cannot anticipate any serious objections on the part of
Turkey and Persia to affording it to us. The readiness
with which the Porte has been induced to suspend
its order for the seizure and confiscation of such
Arab and Persian Vessels as may attempt to violate
the Sultan's orders for the suppression of the African
Slave Trade in his Ports, affords a hope, that even the
injurious effects which would unquestionably be felt

by



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by the Commerce of Musforah from the absence of our
surveillance over the proceedings of the piratical
tribes when in Turkish Waters to be pointed out to
the Ottoman Authorities, the privilege asked for
would be conceded without any great opposition.

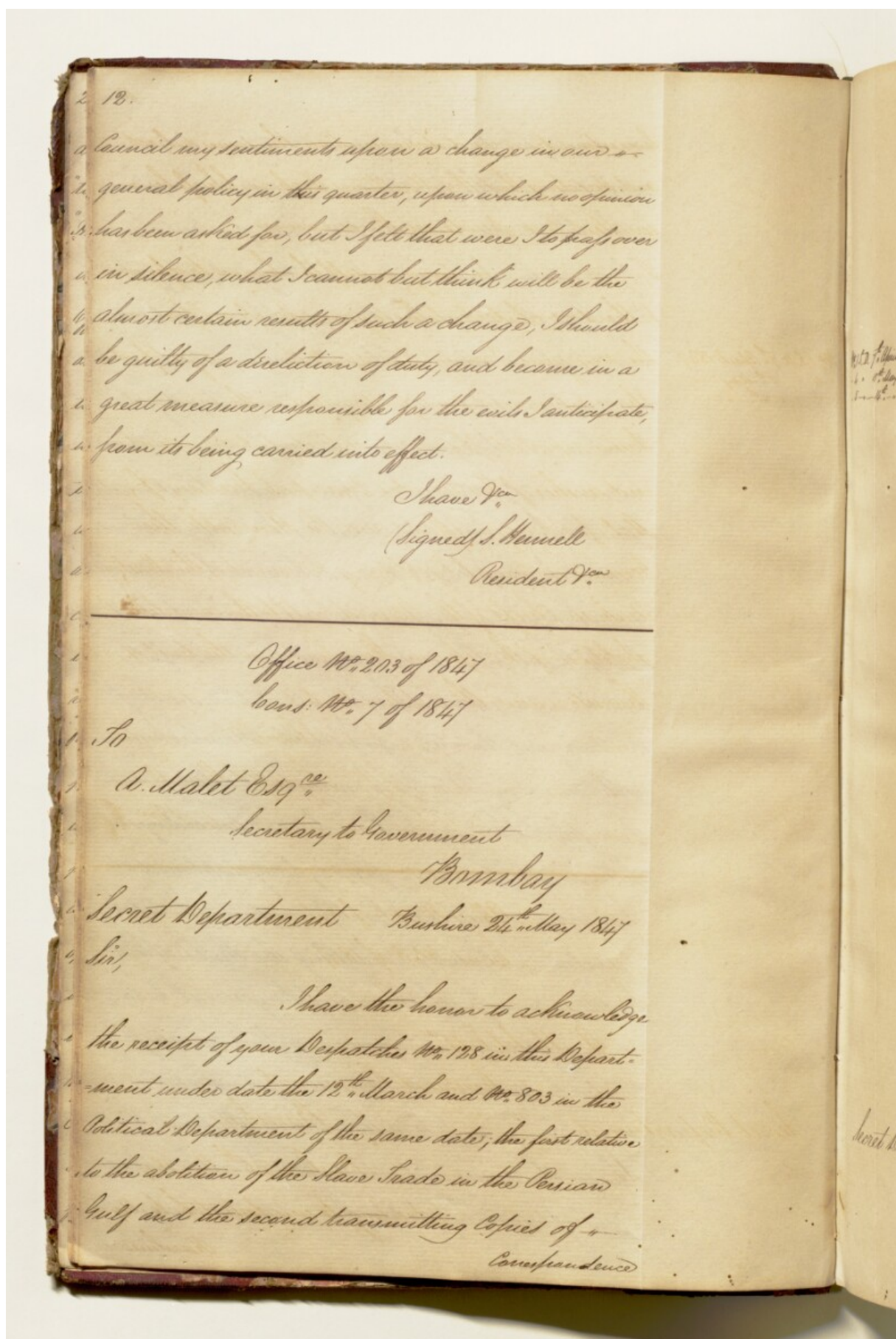
9. Before concluding this letter, I should
take the liberty of adverting to two points referred to
by Major Rawlinson in his Despatch to Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The restrictive
line alluded to in the 2^d paragraph of his letter, has
no connexion whatever with acts of Piracy. It was
simply a conventional engagement entered into with
the Arabian Chiefs prior to the establishment of the
ten Years Maritime Truce, by which they bound themselves
to confine all their Naval Conflicts within a certain
distance from their own shores, so as to insure the free
Commercial track of the Trading Vessels, to and from
India, lying along the Persian Coast, from the inevitable
disturbance, and confusion, arising from the cruising
of Hostile fleets against each other in that quarter.

10. The second point referred to by Major
Rawlinson is, that an Expedition was then operating against
some of the Persian Ports, for the plunder of an Arab boat
on the Euphrates below Mohumrah. The expedition in
question, was sent to enforce redress, for the piratical
seizure and destruction of a Native Vessel belonging to a
dependent



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dependant of the British Government, and partly to obtain
satisfaction for the forcible extraction of a sum of money
by the Sheikh of Oveloo from the Agent of a British
Subject while on board a Muscat Bugla lying off that
Port. Had it not been for these aggressions upon our
own people, in all probability no such expedition would
have taken place. The boat mentioned by Major
Rawlinson belonged to a Native of Congow, a Persian
Subject, and although at first erroneously supposed
by me to have been plundered by the Oveloo Vessel -
within the Euphrates, it was subsequently ascertained
that the outrage in question took place outside the
bar of that River. As this circumstance was perfectly
well known to the Sheikh of Noweit, a dependant of
the Porte, and through him probably to the Turkish
Authorities, I am at a loss to understand what grounds
of complaint they could have for our proceedings in
this case. The Governor of Shiraz being displeased at
the contumacious and lawless conduct of the Subjects
of Oveloo, sanctioned our calling the Sheikh of that
Port to account for this breach of the general peace,
at the same time that we were enforcing redress
under his Authority, for our own grievances.

11. It is with extreme reluctance that
I have thus ventured upon the apparent presumption
of laying before the Honorable the Governor in
Council



18.

a Council my sentiments upon a change in our
general policy in this quarter, upon which no opinion
has been asked for, but I felt that were I to pass over
in silence, what I cannot but think will be the
almost certain results of such a change, I should
be guilty of a dereliction of duty, and become in a
great measure responsible for the evils I anticipate,
from its being carried into effect.

I have &c

(Signed) S. Hannell

Resident &c

Office No. 203 of 1847
Cons. No. 7 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to Government

Bombay

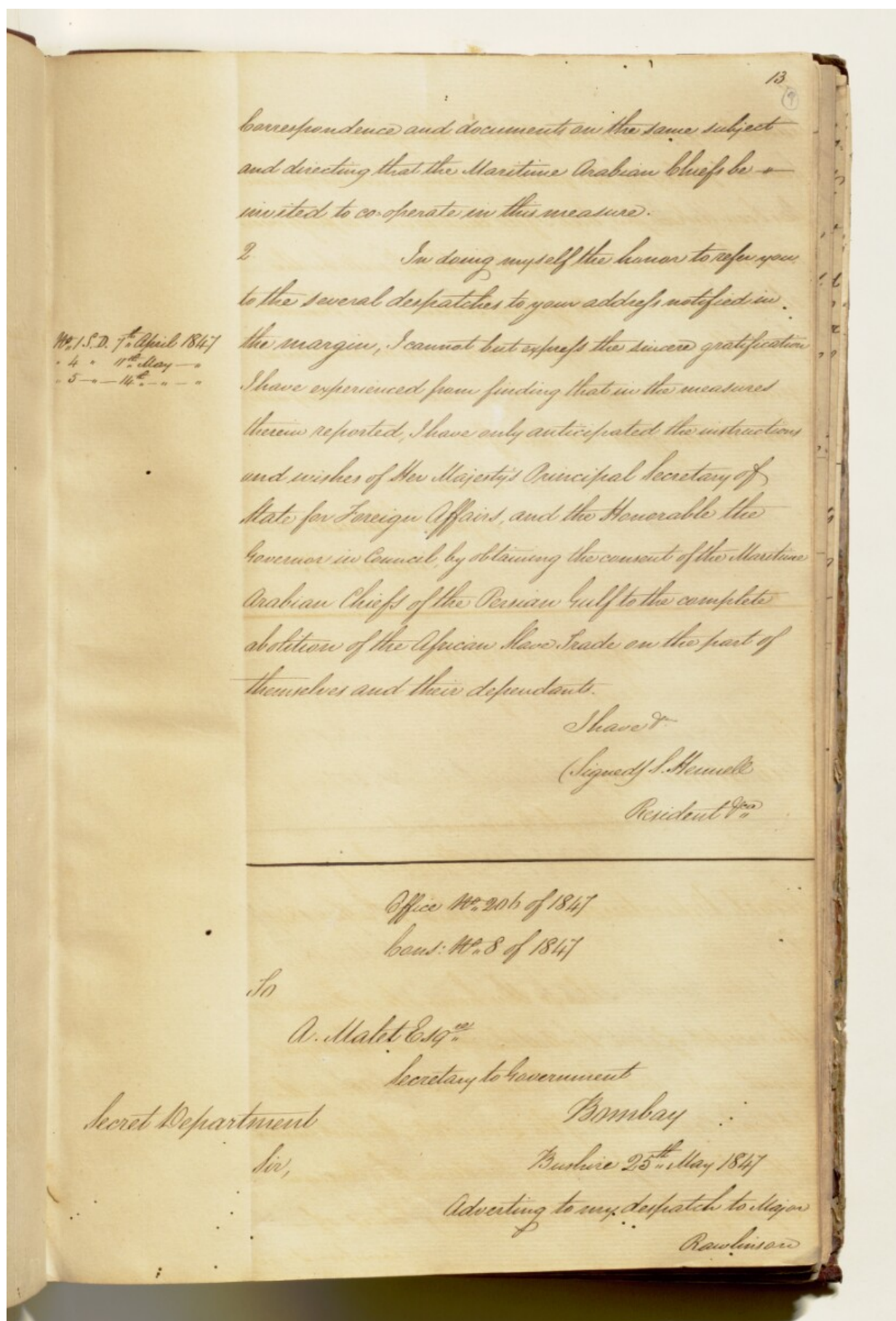
Secret Department

Burhore 21st May 1847

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your Despatches No. 128 in the Depart-
ment under date the 12th March and No. 803 in the
Political Department of the same date; the first relative
to the abolition of the Slave Trade in the Persian
Gulf and the second transmitting copies of

Compendence





14
Kawlinson, dated the 9th Instant, a Copy of which
formed an Enclosure in my letter to your address,
No 2 in this Department, under date the 10th Idem,
regarding the views of Turkey upon the independence
of Bashir, I now do myself the honor to forward
for the information of the Honorable the Governor
in Council, the accompanying transcript of a
communication to that Office of this day's date,
transmitting Copy and translation, of the letter addressed
by the Mootellim of Busborah, to Sheikh Mohammed bin
Shulefa, referred to in the 3^d Paragraph of my Communica-
tion to Major Kawlinson.

Shave P.
(Signed) J. Harcourt
Resident P.

For enclosure vide following letter No. 207

No. 207 of 1847
Residency in the Persian Gulf
Bashir 25th May 1847
To
Major Kawlinson C. B.
Political Agent Turkish Arabia
Bagdad
Secret Department
Sir,
With reference to the 1st Paragraph



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of my despatch to your address in this department, dated
the 9th Instant, regarding the desire of the Turkish Govern-
ment to extend its influence and Authority over the
independent Maritime Chiefs of the Arabian Coast; I
have now the honor to forward for your information,
and that of Her Majesty's Minister at the Ottoman Porte;
the enclosed Copy and translation of a letter addressed
by the Mutesellim of Bassorah to Sheikh Mahomed
bin Khaleefa the ruler of Bahrein, inviting that
Chief to put himself under the protection of the
Turkish Flag, than directly urging any claims upon
his allegiance to the Sultan.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Russell
Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 1

Translation of a letter from Mahomed Mharshid
Governor of Bassorah to Sheikh Mahomed bin
Khaleefa the Chief of Bahrein. dated 15th Rabi ul
Awwal or 1st April 1847.

A. C. The commencement of the writing
of this friendly letter is especially to make inquiries
after your welfare and health as we are related
to you; thank's be to God both in the religion of
Islam and in the service of the sublime Porte, the
Sultan whom may God protect for ever as well as

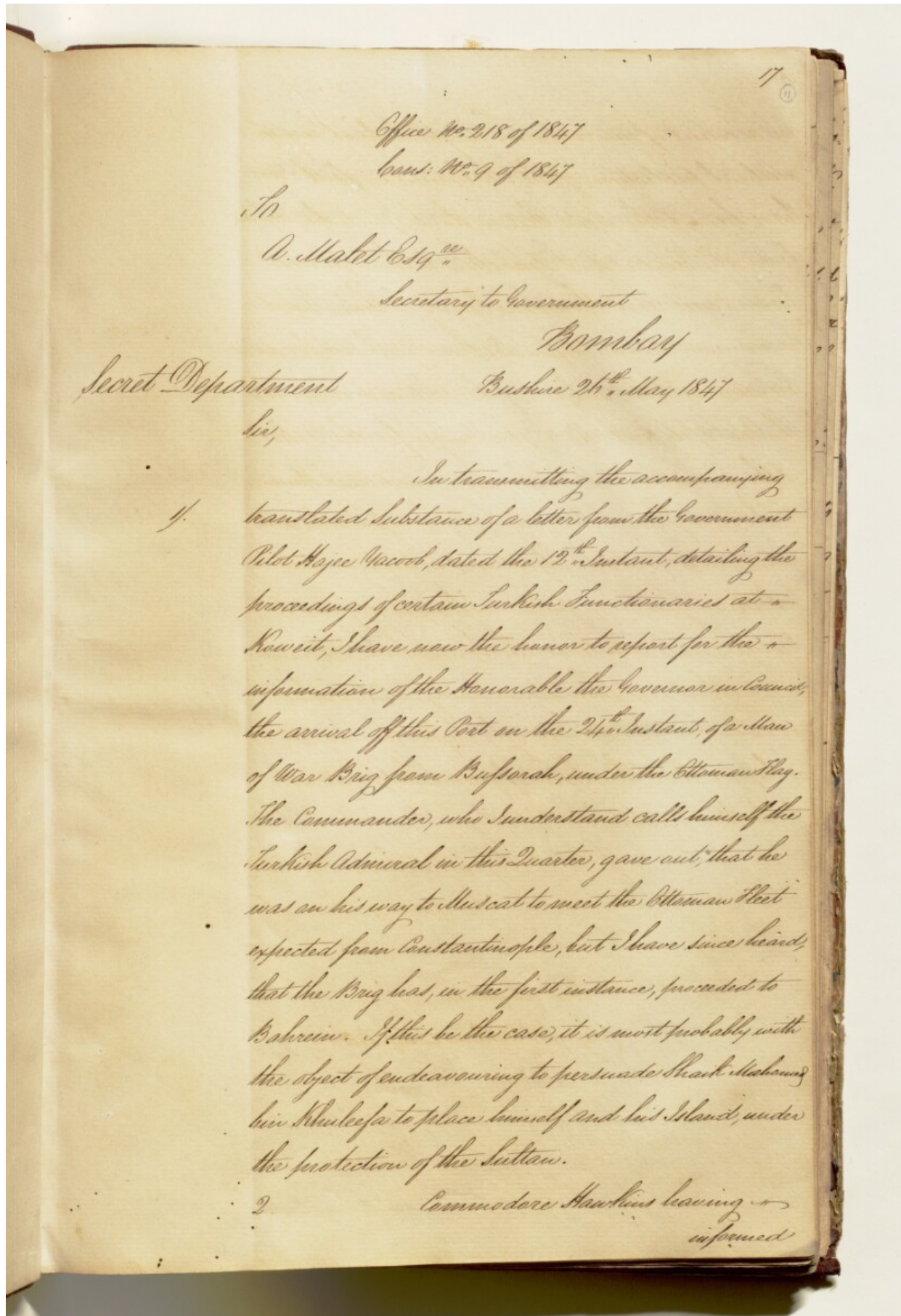


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on account of our common neighbourhood, and the
mutual protection of the Mohammedan faith. We
have heard the news, that in the Sepoys they demand
from all Traders and Travellers to those places -
from Vessels and those who belong to them; what
Government they are dependant, and you without doubt
are amongst the subjects of this State and under the
shadow of its protection. Accordingly for the sake
of the maintenance of Islamism and Arab Honor,
We have informed Haja Abdul Aziz Grefaw, who will
intimate to you our object and intention, and
whatever you may find necessary in regard to
Registers, and whatever else be requisite, acquaint
me with it - explain its meaning, and it shall
at once be done accordingly - after this day it
is hoped that the chain of friendship will not
be broken asunder.

(Signed) Mahomed Shoorah
Governor of Banorah

True translation
(Signed) William Campbell

Secret





18

informed me, that he had received the Authority
of the Superintendent of the Indian Navy for the
Honorable Company's Steamer "Ducen" to show herself
off the Arabian Coast, should it be deemed expedient,
I have considered that the interests of the public &
Service would be promoted by that Vessel touching at
Bahrein, on her return to India. Her appearance off
that Island, in Company with the "Elphinstone" and
"Acher", will doubtless be of service, in counteracting
any impression, which may have been produced by
the visit of the Turkish Admiral.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. Munnell

Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 1

Translated Substance of a letter from Major Gashob,
Government Pilot Nizary, to Major Munnell, Resident
in the Persian Gulf, dated 26th Jumadee ool Awwal
12th May 1847.

I have the honor to acquaint you that
on the 25th of the Month Jumadee ool Awwal (11th May)
a Nizary Bugle arrived from Rowait. On inquiring of
the Nakhoda what news there was in that quarter,
he informed me, that two persons Agents of the
Turkish Government had arrived at Rowait from
Busorah and that they had letters from the Mootashim



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of the latter place, to Sheikh Sabir, Governor of Rowait,
requesting him to furnish them with a pilot. Their inten-
-tion was to remain at Rowait until the arrival of
a Vessel from Basrah in which they were to
embark for Katar, going thence to Moham and
proceeding afterwards to each port in succession until
they reached Muscat. No one has ascertained what
object they have in their journey to those Seaports -
They have now been eight day's at Rowait - frequent
the Coffeehouse Morning and Evening, and have
three Attendants. They go a great deal about Rowait
and make observations in every direction. What-
-ever inquiries the people of the Island make as to
their object, they do not disclose it. According to
what is said among the people of Rowait, these
two Individuals are persons of importance and
distinction. No one knows their motives.

True translated substance
(Signed) William Campbell.



20

N^o 298 of 1847

Residency in the Persian Gulf
Bashire 27th May 1847

To

Major Rawlinson C.B.

Political Agent, Turkish Arabia

Bagdad

Secret Department

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive
your letter N^o 17 under date the 10th instant, trans-
mitting for my information, Copy of a letter from
Her Majesty's Minister at the Porte, on the subject
of the Foreign Slave Trade in the Persian Gulf, and
expressing an opinion, that as some of the Maritime
Arabian Sheefs have agreed to the abolition of this traffic,
the Turkish Orders might be extended, so as to attach
the penalty of confiscation, equally to Foreign and to
Native Slave Vessels.

2. Although my sentiments regarding
the advantages of retaining in our own hands the
executive measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade
in this quarter still remains unaltered, I do not by any
means consider it an object of such importance as to
render it expedient to incur any risk of exciting the
Suspicious or Jealousy of the Ottoman Porte, by pursuing

an



21

an apparent interference in its Jurisdiction within its
own Territories.

3. As I have already remarked in my despatch
of the 8th Instant to Her Majesty's Minister at Constantinople,
the Convention lately entered into by the Chiefs of the
Arabian Coast for the abolition of the African Slave
Trade, will enable us, if it be considered advisable to
do so, to protect the Turkish Local Authorities from the
otherwise probable consequences of their seizing and
confiscating those Arab Vessels, which might infringe
the fiscal Regulations of the Ports, by the importation
of Slaves, in defiance of the Sultan's Prohibition. I
entertain however some doubts as to how far the
intimation lately given by Her Majesty's Government,
that our Cruisers have no right to detain Arab Vessels
on the open Sea, for Offences committed within
Turkish Waters, may operate to prevent our interfering
in case of the Arabian Chiefs resorting to the
seizure and confiscation of their Vessels by the
Ottoman Authorities.

I have &c

(Signed) S. Hennells

Resident &c



22

Office No. 229 of 1847

Caus: No. 10 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bombay 27th May 1847

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the
information of the Honorable the Governor in Council,
the accompanying Copy of a letter from Major Rawlinson of
the Political Agent at Bagdat to my address dated the
10th Instant, enclosing transcript of a despatch from Her
Majesty's Minister at the Porte dated the 27th ultimo,
intimating that the Pasha of Bagdat has been ordered
not to do more at present, than prevent Slave Vessels
under Foreign Colors from loading their Cargoes in
Turkish Boats.

2.

In forwarding a Copy of my reply to
Major Rawlinson's letter for the information of Government

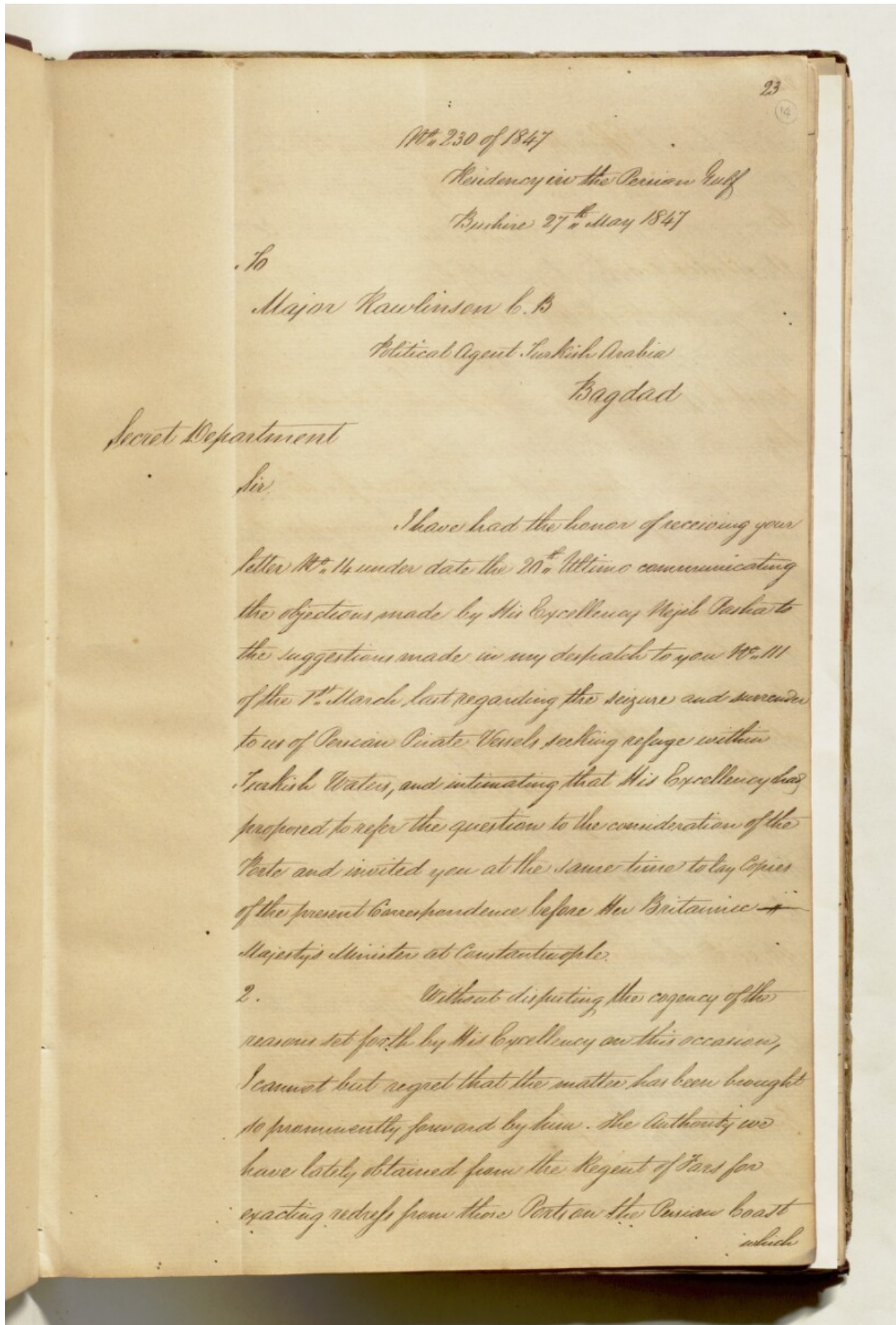
I have &c

(Signed) J. Munnell

Resident &c

For enc^l: 1 Wide letter from Major Rawlinson No. of 10th May 1847

" 2 Wide preceding letter. No. 228.



No. 230 of 1847

Residency in the Persian Gulf

Bushire 27th May 1847

To

Major Rawlinson C.B.

Political Agent Turkish Arabia

Bagdad

Secret Department

Sir,

I have had the honor of receiving your letter No. 14 under date the 20th ultimo communicating the objections made by His Excellency Mejid Pasha to the suggestions made in my despatch to you No. 111 of the 7th March last regarding the seizure and surrender to us of Persian Pirate Vessels seeking refuge within Turkish Waters, and intimating that His Excellency had proposed to refer the question to the consideration of the Porte and invited you at the same time to lay copies of the present correspondence before Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Constantinople.

2.

Without disputing the cogency of the reasons set forth by His Excellency on this occasion, I cannot but regret that the matter has been brought so prominently forward by him. The Authority we have lately obtained from the Regent of Persia for exacting redress from those Ports on the Persian Coast which



24
which have been guilty of piracy upon Vessels belonging
to our dependants has been for a long series of years con-
sidered as an important but hitherto unattainable
consideration. Although probably known to and perhaps
even granted with the tacit permission of the Persian
Minister, still this valuable privilege has never been
openly acknowledged and sanctioned by the Shah's
Government, which consequently has it in its power
at any time to disavow the whole arrangement made
and I greatly fear that the public agitation of that question
as involving points of extra territorial Jurisdiction, will
eventually tend to the withdrawal of this long sought
for concession. Had I entertained at the time the least
idea of any suggestion incurring such a risk it would
certainly never have been made for the assumption
by the Persian Government of an authority so conducive
to the maintenance of the Peace and tranquillity of
these Seas will be but poorly compensated even should
the point of the seizure and surrender of Pirates taking
refuge on the Euphrates be conceded.

3. In bowing with respectful submission
to the decision of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of
State for Foreign Affairs regarding the absence of any
right in the part of our Cruisers to detain Pirates on
the open seas for crimes committed within the limits



25
15
of a foreign Jurisdiction, even although bound to us by
Treaty to abstain from all Maritime Outrage, I cannot but
express my concern that this question of international law
has been mooted, as I apprehend the most unfavorable
effects from it, on the policy for the suppression of Piracy
which we have so successfully carried out for so many
years in this quarter. I trust therefore it may concur
with the views of Her Majesty's Government to endeavour
to obtain from the Ottoman Porte a tacit if not open
sanction to our holding the Maritime (Ships of the
Arabian Coast (with whom we have a Treaty for the
suppression of Piracy) responsible for the piratical acts
of their Subjects on Turkish Waters. In ninety nine
cases out of a hundred, the circumstance of the exercise
of this very moderate degree of interference would
probably never become known to them, and consequently
would scarcely affect the National susceptibilities of the
Porte. Were the very serious consequences to which the
Trade and Commerce of Bussorah will be exposed by
the liberty afforded to the Piratical Tribes of the Arabian
Coast to indulge their lawless and predatory inclinations
on Turkish Waters owing to the withdrawal of our
interference in such cases, to be strongly urged upon
the Ottoman Ministers, a hope might be reasonably
indulged that the concession asked for would be
granted without any great difficulty.

with



26

4. With regard to the Restrictive Line
alluded to by you in the 4th Paragraph of your letter,
I beg to explain that this Limit was simply a conven-
tional arrangement entered into with the Arabian
Maritime Chiefs previously to the Establishment of the
two years truce by which they bound themselves to
confine their Hostilities within a certain distance from
their own Shores. The object of this was to leave the
principal track of the Commerce to and from India
lying along the Asian Coast free from those collisions
and Outrages which would in all probability be
constantly occurring were it made the theatre of the
Naval conflicts of the Belligerent Tribes.

I have &c
(Signed) J. Hamell
Resident &c

Office No. 231 of 1847
Lans. No. 11 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq^{re}

Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 28th May 1847

Sir

With reference to the latter part
of

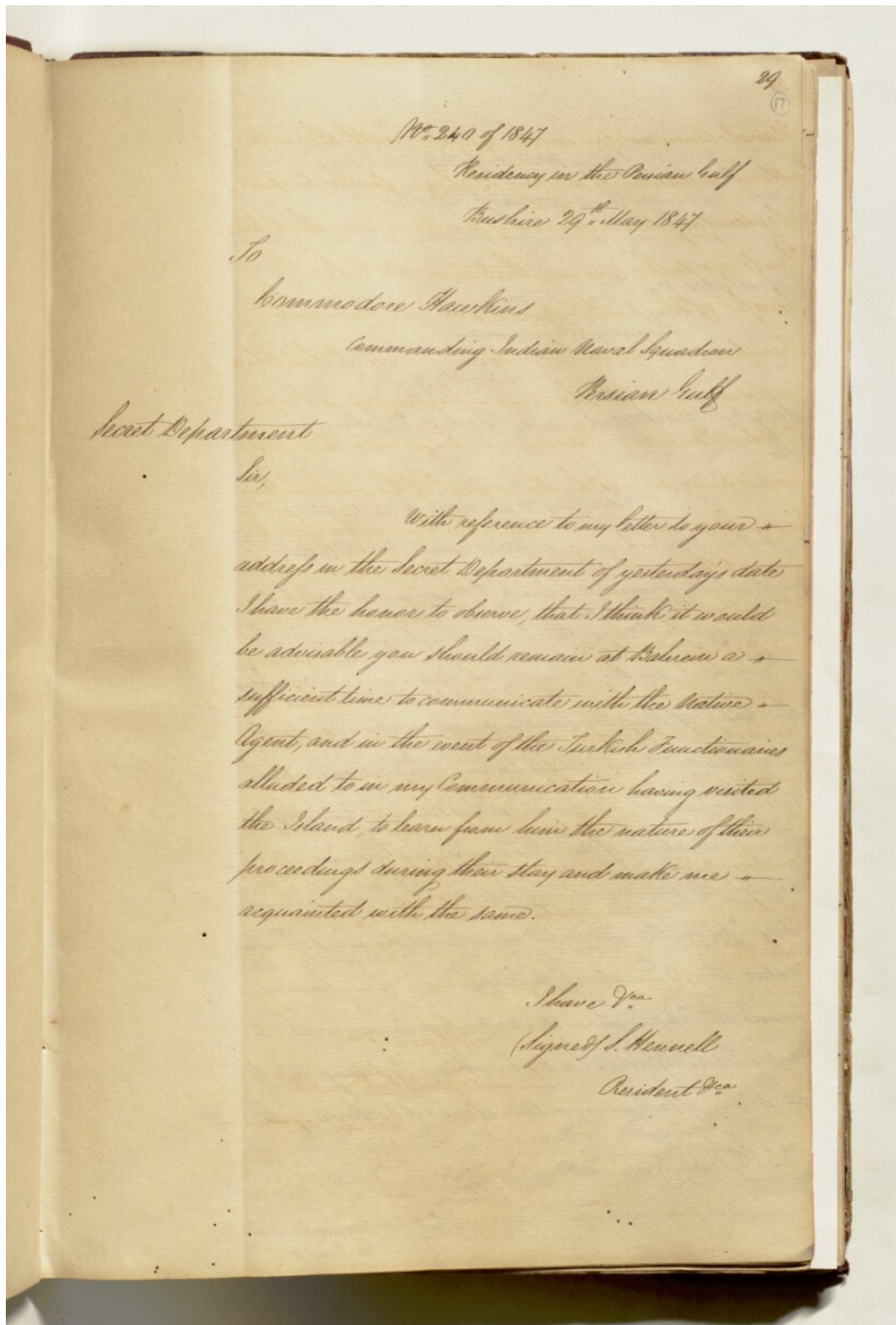
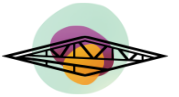


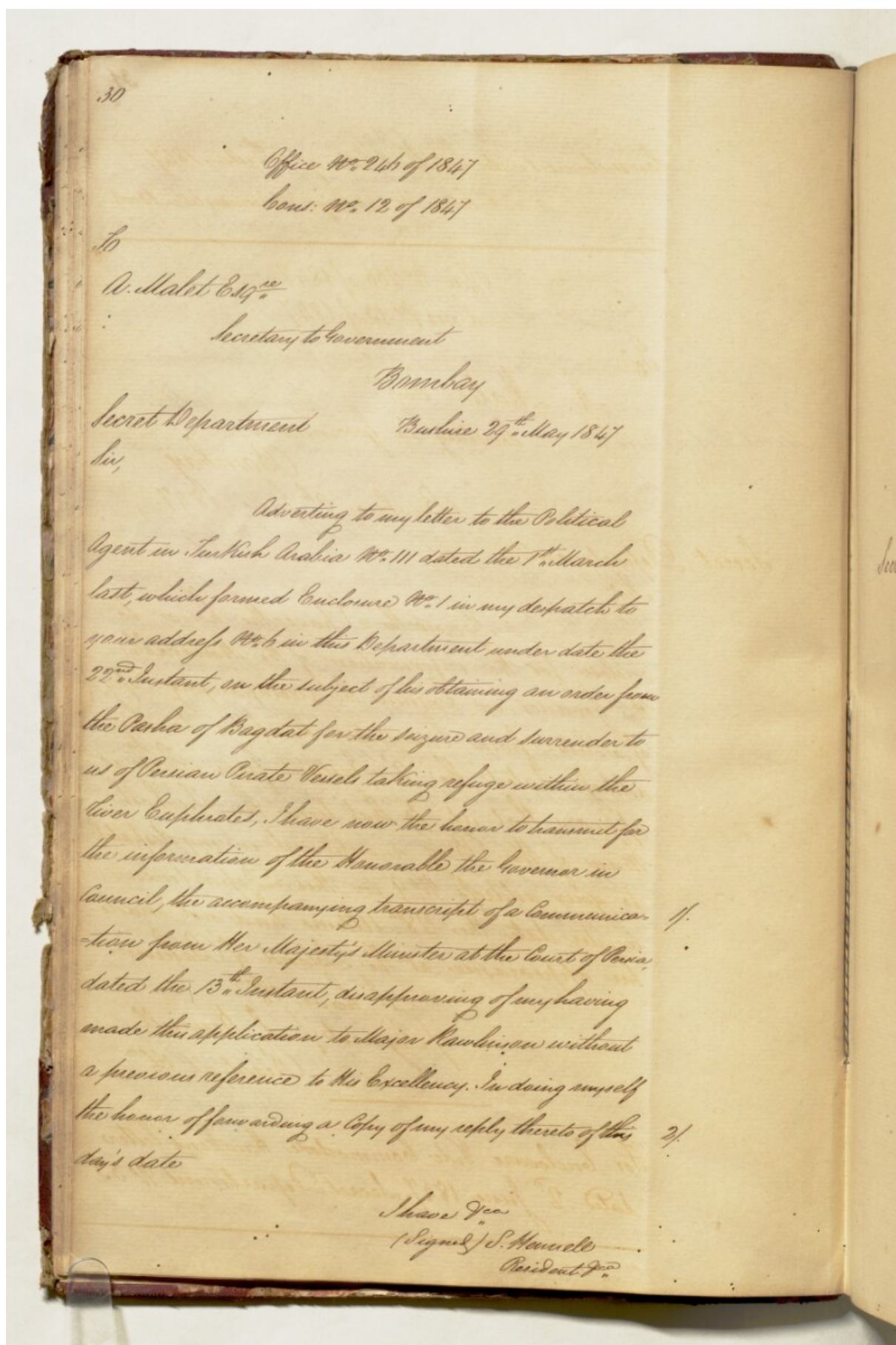
28

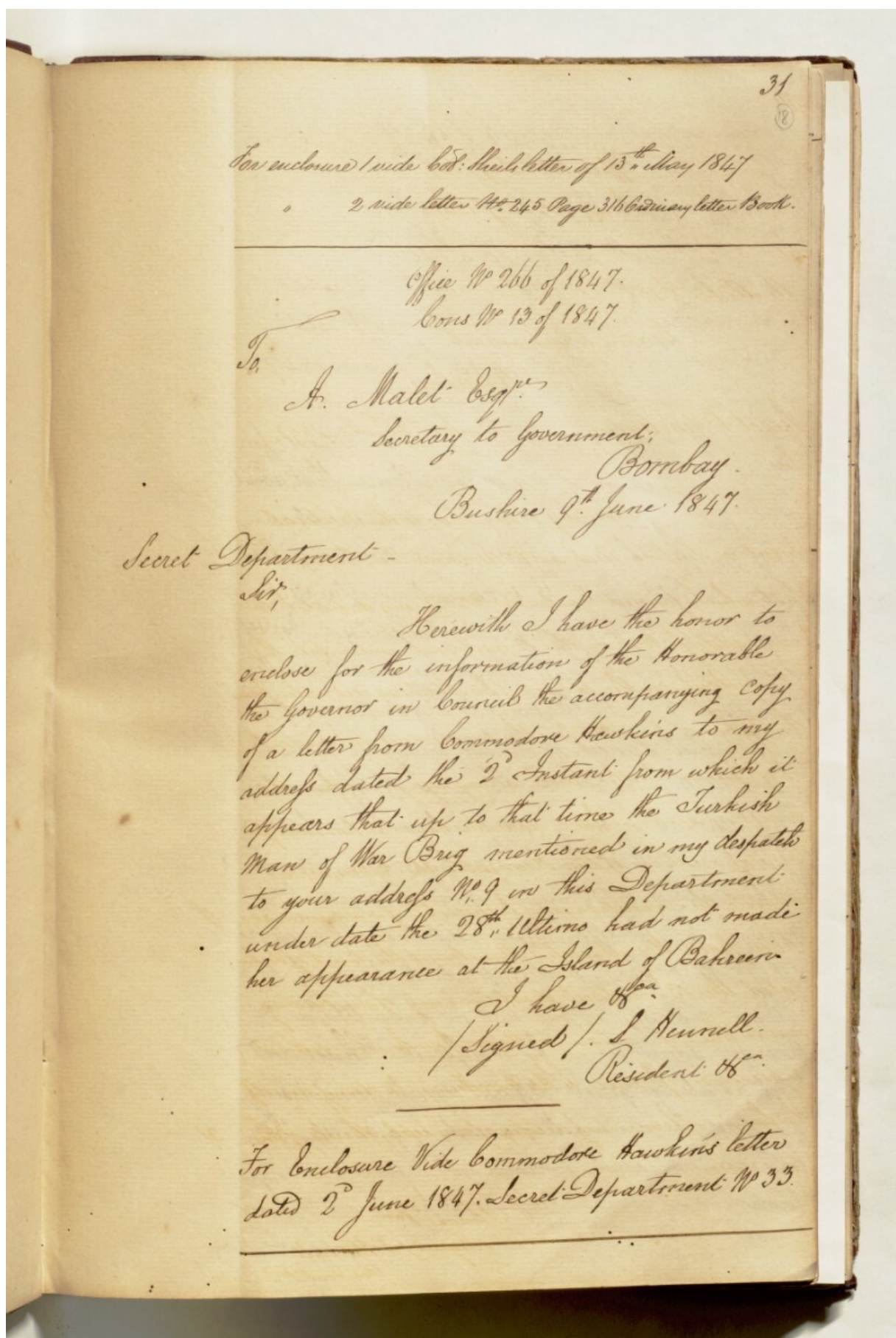
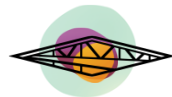
Naval Commander in this quarter, with the under-
stood intention of visiting Bahrein, for the purpose
of extending the influence of the Ports and that I have
leads me to the opinion, that it would be for the
benefit of the public service, were the Honorable
Company's Steamer "Lucin" to show herself off that place
in company with the Honorable Company's Schooner
"Sphinx" and Schooner "Mahi" in order that any
impression made by the arrival of the Turkish Brig
may be counteracted. I have the honor therefore to
request that with this view you will be pleased to issue
the necessary instructions for the Squadron to touch
at Bahrein and afterwards to sight the the principal
Ports on the Arabian Coast should the Weather
permit this to be done without any unusual delay
in the return of the Steam Brig to the Presidency.

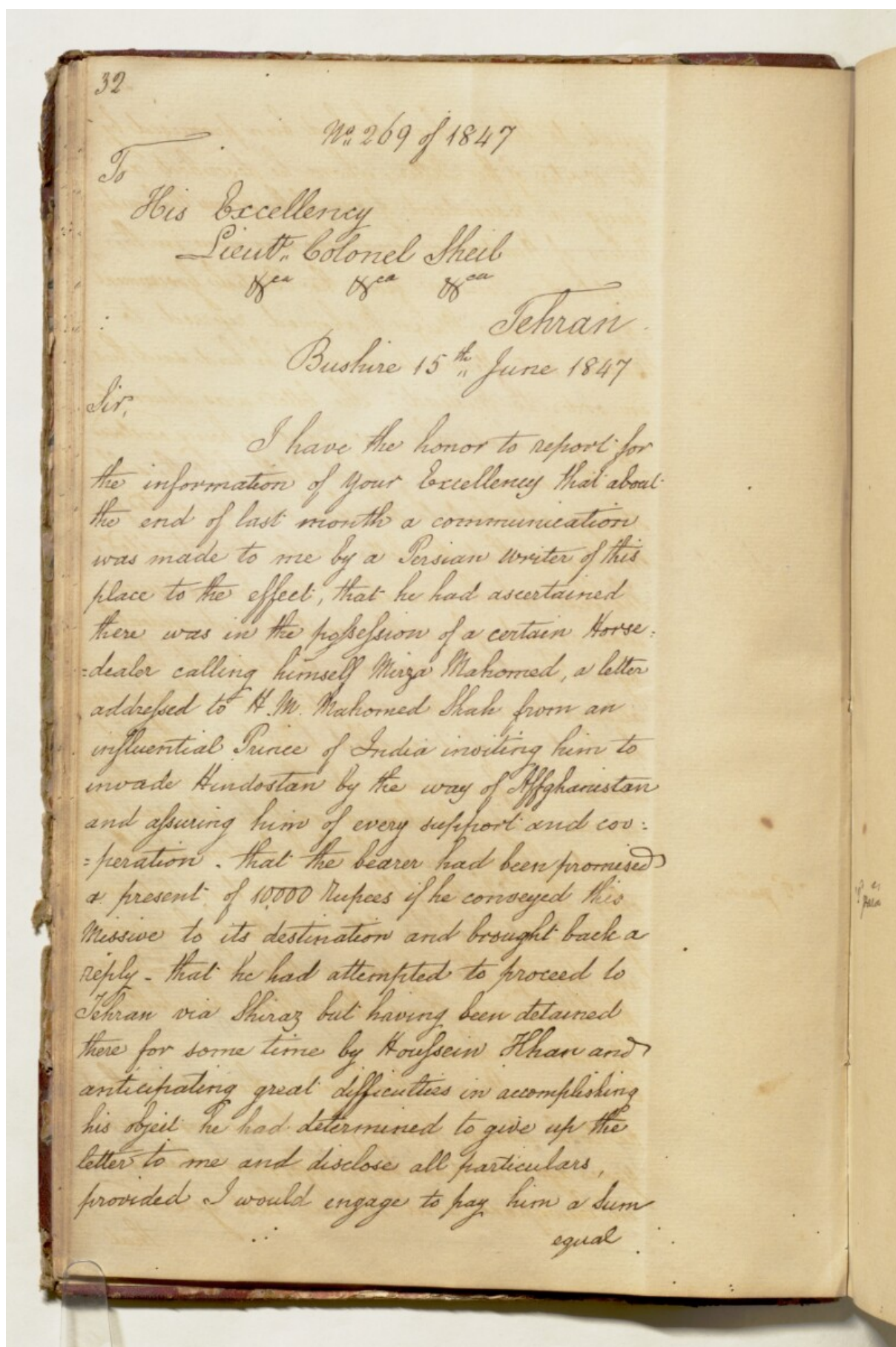
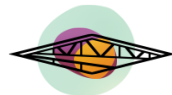
2. Herewith I have the honor to
enclose letters for the Agents at Bahrein and Shargah
containing Communications to the Heads of those
places.

I have &c
(Signed) J. Hannell
Resident &c











2 para

19 33
equal to that which he had been promised by
the writer of the Letter, whom he described as
being a descendant of one of the former Mahomedan
Rulers of Hindostan and who was now in the
receipt of a Pension from the British Government.
At one time Mirza Mahomed referred to
Madras but afterwards declared he had said this
in order to mislead. The letter was shown to
my informant who describes it as being enclosed
in the usual cover of gold cloth, but the silk
strings attached to the seal were separated from
the Bag so that the letter could be extracted.
The Seal which was about two inches square
was exceedingly well executed, and evidently
by a Persian Engraver. He had not been
allowed to read the inscription, but the glimpse
he had got of it enabled him to see that it
contained four lines. In the first were the
words Mirza Mahomed and he also saw the
words Ghazee, and Shah Bahadoor in the
other lines. The following is a translation
of the address of this letter. To the high in rank
in dignity Alexander in Splendour Dara
the Victorious King, the Sultan ben Sultan
Mahomed Shah.

3 Mirza Mahomed further states that
he took down Houses for India some six
years ago. I have been informed that he was
in Cawnpore and Meerut last year and
that



34.

that about 5 years since he was at Sukkur on the Indus. He also told my Informant he was certain the British in India would willingly pay him handsomely for this information as they watched the proceedings of the pensioned Scions of the old Monarchs of Hindostan with great jealousy and suspicion.

4th I was much inclined to believe that the whole of this Statemant was a clumsy contrivance to try and extract money out of the British Functionaries in this quarter, but I intimated to Mirza Mahomed, that if he chose to give me the letter and to communicate fully all the particulars connected with its despatch I was not indisposed to make him a present proportionate to the value of his information. This offer he declined accepting. He gives out that he intends to convey it to Tehran via Bagdad. at present he has gone to Turigistan.

5th Although even under the supposition that the letter in the possession of Mirza Mahomed is a bona fide document, the folly and absurdity of the application to the Shah is such as to render it hardly worthy of notice. Still under all the circumstances I have thought it best to make Your Excellency acquainted with such particulars concerning



20 35
concerning it as have come to my knowledge -
I have &c
(Signed) / S. Hennell.
Resident &c

Office No 283 of 1847.
Cons: No 14 of 1847.
To,
A. Malet Esq^r
Secretary to the Government,
Bombay
Bushire 23 Jura 1847.
Secret Department
Sir,

Enclosed I have the honor
to forward for the information of the
Honorable the Governor in Council the
accompanying copy of a Despatch in this
Department, dated the 15th Instant.
No 269. addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at
the Court of Persia, relative to a letter said
to have been addressed by one of the Princes of
India to A.M. Mahomed Shah.

I have &c
(Signed) / S. Hennell.
Resident.

For the Enclosure Vide the letter preceding
the above.



36

Office No 293 of 1847.
Cons No 15 of 1847.

To,

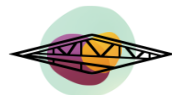
A. Malet Esq^r
Secretary to the Government,
Bombay -
Bushire 26th June 1847.

Secret Department

Sir,

Adverting to my Despatch to
your address No 5 in this Department under
date the 14th Ultimo enclosing a copy of my
letter to Her Majesty's Minister at the Porte
announcing that the Independent Maritime
Chiefs of the Arabian Coast had consented to the
total abolition of the African Slave Trade, I
have now the honor to transmit for the infor-
-mation of the Honorable the Governor in
Council a copy of Major Rawlinson's reply
dated the 8th Instant to the communication
addressed by me to him on the 8th Ultimo
a transcript of which formed an Enclosure
in the Despatch above referred to. -

2
As I am uncertain whether
Major Rawlinson may not furnish the Bombay
Government with copies of all his correspondence
I shall be glad to learn whether it is the wish
of the Honorable the Governor in Council that I
should transmit transcripts of those letters
which



(21) 37.
which the Political Agent in Turkish Arabia
may address to me on subjects of interest.

I have &c
/Signed/ J. Hennell.
Resident &c

For the Enclosure Vide letter from the Political
Agent in Turkish Arabia No 21 dated 8th June 1847.

Office No. 304 of 1847.
Cons No. 16 of 1847.

To,

A. Malet Esq^r
Secretary to the Government
Bombay
Bushire 3 July 1847.

Secret Department.
Sir,

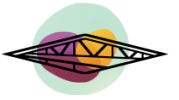
In a letter from the Native Agent
at Shargah to my address dated the 1st June
last the translated substance of which formed
an enclosure in my Despatch No 67 in the
Political Department of yesterday's date, he
reports, that although the Arab Vessels, which
have returned from the coast of Barbaria have
brought away no Somuchies, they have imported
a large number of Kubshee or Abyssinian Slaves.
As the engagements entered
into by the Independent Shiks of the Arabian
Coast-



38

Coast for the suppression of the African Slave Trade
do not come into operation before the month
of December next and Berbera is not within
the territories of H H the Imam of Muscat
these Vessels have committed no breach of
Treaty or of Fiscal Regulations in importing these
Abyssinians. My Object however in bringing this
circumstance more particularly to the notice
of the Government, is to draw the attention
of His Honor in Council to the necessity which
exists for efficient measures being taken
to carry the conditions of the newly formed
Engagements, with the Ottoman Porte, the
Imam of Muscat and the Arabian Chiefs of
the Persian Gulf, into full effect.

3 I need hardly remark, that although
a number of the Mahomedan powers, have,
in compliance with the wishes of the British
Government, consented to the abolition of the
African Slave Trade, still we have no right
to count upon any cordial cooperation
on their part, in the suppression of a traffic
at once so congenial to their Habits both
social and religious. A quiet acquiescence
therefore in the steps we may take for the
attainment of our objects in this respect
is, I think, the utmost we may look for,
and consequently upon the more or less
efficacious measures we may adopt
will



39.

will depend in a material degree the stoppage
or continuance of the African Slave Trade
in the East. It is natural to suppose
that the attention of all parties having en-
gagements with us in respects to this traffic
will be turned with deep interest to the steps
taken by us for its suppression and in
proportion as these are effective or otherwise,
will the inferences, as to the reality of our
determinations, be drawn. If one or two
seasons be permitted to pass without any other
arrangements being made or means provided
than those at present in operation, I should
greatly fear that our recent conventions
will be found to be little better than a
dead letter.

4th With a view therefore of obviating
such an unhappy result to all our exertions
for the abolition of the Slave Trade in this
quarter I would respectfully suggest for the
consideration of the Government the expediency
of Vessels of War being specially stationed in
the vicinity of Zanzibar, Berberah and Zelas
from the month of November to that of May
for the purpose of examining the Boats visiting
those places, and carrying into execution
the provisions of the existing Treaties. For the
due surveillance of the Arabian and Turkish
Vessels belonging to Muscat and the Persian
Gulf, I would recommend that a cruiser
should



40

should be stationed off Soor, and another outside the Bar of the Euphrates. I have suggested Soor in preference to Muscat because the Boats from the former place bring up a very large proportion of the Slaves imported from the African Coast, and as the Authorities of Muscat possess but little real authority over the inhabitants, the presence of one of our Vessels of War would I conceive be necessary for the due fulfilment of the stipulations agreed to by H^H the Imam. By being in Communication with the Native Agent at Muscat the Commanding Officer would be able to exercise a due surveillance over the craft belonging to the latter port.

I am aware that the location of a Vessel of War outside the Bar of the Euphrates is not altogether free from objections, but after much consideration I am unable to suggest any preferable means of maintaining that watch over the Turkish and Arab Vessels of this Gulf which is so highly essential to the promotion of our views for the abolition of the Trade in Africans. Could this surveillance be carried on within the river without offence to the national sensitiveness of Turkey and Persia it would unquestionably be exercised in a more effective manner and with less inconvenience to those employed in the service.

To

1 May
1849



23 41.

To station a Vessel at Harrack for this purpose
would obviously be useless as no Boat of a
suspicious character would touch there, or
pass within sight under such circumstances
9th. I venture to throw out these sug-
-gestions with much diffidence for the purpose
of drawing the attention of the Government to
the necessity of framing special rules, and
making special arrangements for the full
accomplishment of our objects connected with
the Slave Trade. Under any circumstances
it will probably be deemed necessary by His
Honour in Council to call upon the Naval
Authorities for their opinion as to the best
method of carrying into effect the Conditions
of the Engagements lately entered into, with
the Ottoman Porte, & the Imam of Muscat
and the Independent Chiefs of the Arabian
Coast. I think it however right to add,
that the Naval Force now employed in the
Persian Gulf for the suppression of Piracy,
is barely sufficient for its own more impor-
-tant duties, and therefore to insure the
effective operation of the new Slave Trade
Treaties and the necessary reliefs an addition
of at least two Vessels to the Squadron
would be required from May until the
beginning of November.
9th. In submitting the suggestions
referred to in the preceding paragraphs

* 1 Sloop
1 Brig or Schooner



42

of this Despatch I have assumed that the same concessions may eventually be made by the Persian Government, as those conceded by the Ottoman Porte for the suppression of the African Slave Trade in the Ports of the Gulf. Recent advices however from Tehran represent the Shah as still obstinate in his refusal to join in this humane measure. It will of course become a question with Her Majesty's Ministers how far they will permit an object so earnestly desired by the British Nation, and for the attainment of which so many sacrifices have been made, to be thwarted by the obstinate bigotry of a Monarch under such essential obligations to England, especially when such object involves in the sacrifice of neither profit nor principle. Persian Vessels derive their Cargoes of Slaves almost wholly from the territories of A. H. the Imam on the African Coast, and if they will persist in carrying on a traffic which His Highness has declared in his convention with Great Britain to be illegal, they can have no just grounds of complaint if they are made to suffer the consequences of their contravening the fiscal regulations of the Imam's dominions. The simple seizure of the contraband Cargo, in a few instances, would be quite sufficient to prevent this unlawful.



(24) 43
unlawful traffic being carried on by Persian
craft for the future. -

I have &c
Signed S Kennell.
Resident &c

Office No 324 of 1847

Cons No 17 of 1847.

To,

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to the Government.

Bombay.

Bushire 26th July 1847

Secret Department.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to
forward for the information of the Honorable
the Governor in Council, the accompanying
copy of a letter to my address dated the 8th July
from Lieut. Kennell the Acting Political Agent
in Turkish Arabia forwarding transcript of a
Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Con-
stantinople with its Enclosures being a copy
and translation of the amended Instructions
issued by the Turkish Government to His Excellency
the Pasha of Bagdad, regarding the disposal
of the Slaves liberated under the Convention
lately entered into.

The opinions expressed by Lieut.
Kennell regarding the probability of the Option
Clause



44.

Clause in these Instructions defeating in a great measure the humane intentions of the British Government in respect to the future welfare of the rescued Africans, appear to me to be well founded. The men wish to escape from the confinement on ship board even if unaided by the allurement and promises which will doubtless be held forth to them by the Turkish Subordinates, will be, I consider in most cases a sufficient inducement for the young and ignorant Slave to choose the personal freedom proffered by the Tezkere, in preference to accepting the alternative of conveyance to an unknown destination and with, as it will appear to him, an unknown object on board of British Vessels.

3 Under these circumstances I do not consider it probable that the concession now made by the Sublime Porte will involve the necessity of any extended or expensive arrangements. The few liberated Slaves who may fall into our hands might perhaps be kept on board our ships of War in the Gulf as Supernumeraries, until their return to Bombay. The abuses likely to arise out of the Option Clause will however I trust be only temporary as it is unlikely that those persons who have hitherto employed their Vessels in this Traffic will persist in carrying



25 45
carrying on a Trade which so far as they are
concerned will, if proper steps be taken
by us, be attended with only loss and
annoyance to themselves.

I have &c.
/ Signed / S. Hennell.
Resident

For the Enclosure Vide letter from the Acting
Pol. Agent in Turkish Arabia dated 8th July
1847.

Office N^o 352 of 1847

Cons N^o 18 of 1847

To,

A Malet Esq^r

Secretary to the Government,

Bombay

Bushire 27th August 1847

Secret Department

Sir,

With reference to my Despatch
to your address N^o 5 in this Department under
date the 14th May last I now do myself the honor
to forward for the information of the Honorable
the Governor in Council the accompanying
Copy



46

Copy of a Communication to my address
from His Excellency Lord Cowley Her
Majesty's Minister at the Ottoman Porte.

I have H^{ce}
/Signed/ S. Kennell
Resident H^{ce}

For the Enclosure Vide Lord Cowley's letter
dated 29th June 1847

Office N^o 379 of 1847
Cons N^o 19 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to the Government
Bombay

Bushire 8th September 1847

Secret Department

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive
your Despatch N^o 334 in this Department,
under date the 31st July last, conveying the
Sentiments of the Honorable the Governor in
Council



47
Council, on the subject of the complaint made
by the Sheik of Bahrein that double duties are
levied in Bombay on boats belonging to his
Dependents, and secondly in respect to the
designs of the Turkish Authorities to claim a
supremacy over the Chief of Bahrein

The friendly consideration exhibited
by Government in directing the refund of the
extra duties levied last season upon certain
Bahrein vessels unprovided with a pass or Register
will I doubt not be highly appreciated by the
Sheik of that Island. I shall not fail to convey
to that Chief the intimation conveyed in the
4th Paragraph of your letter, that in future
Vessels belonging to himself or Subjects will be
liable to the extra duties levied on Foreign
Craft entering Bombay unless they are provided
with passes. In my Despatch No. 86 Political
Department of this day's date I have alluded
to the probability of some of the Bahrein boats
sailing before the Sheik can be made aware
of my Countersignature being required to the
Register furnished by him. In this case,
for



48

for the present season, I trust the absence
of this authentication to the Passes may be
overlooked. I shall adopt measures, with
as little delay as possible, to secure that all
Boats from the Gulf ^{shall} be allowed the same
privileges as British Vessels; be furnished with
the prescribed Passes from their respective Chiefs.

3 The instructions of the Honorable
the Governor in Council, communicated in
the 6th paragraph of your Despatch relative
to the line of policy to be pursued in that
quarter with reference to the designs of
Turkey to establish a supremacy over Bahrain,
will be carefully observed by me.

I have &c.

Signed / S. A. Munnell.
Resident &c.



(21) 49.

Office N^o 386 of 1847.
Cons N^o 20 of 1847.

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to the Government,
Bombay.

Bushree 9th September 1847.

Secret Department.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter N^o 340 in this
Department, under date the 3^d August last,
approving of my proceedings with reference to
the interview between the Secretary of the
Governor of Burderabadi and myself on
board the H.C. Sloop *Alphinstone* in April
on which occasion the hostile designs enter-
tained by Sheikh Syf ben Nubhan against
the Ports on the Persian coast were brought
under discussion

2

As I anticipated, the opinions
entertained by the Honorable the Governor in
Council in respect to the nature of the objects
held



50

held in view by the Governor of Bunderabaps,
and the inexpediency of permitting him to
carry them out, coincide as nearly as possible,
with the sentiments communicated to me by
the Minister at the Court of Persia, in reply to
my report to His Excellency upon the subject
of Sheik Jyff's intentions. A copy of this letter
formed an Enclosure to my Despatch to your
address No. 82 Political Department under date
the 28th Ultimo.

3 I shall take an early opportunity
of making the intimation to the Governor of
Bunderabaps, directed in the 2^d paragraph of
your letter now acknowledged, namely, that
he will not be allowed to carry on hostilities at
sea and thus disturb the Peace of the Persian
Gulf in the name of his Master, whose inter-
ests would thereby be seriously compromised

I have &c.

/Signed/ S. Hennell
Resident &c.



(28) 51

Office N^o 390 of 1847.

Cons N^o 21 of 1847.

To,

A. Malet Esq^r

Secretary to the Government,
Bombay

Bushire 11th September 1847.

Secret Department

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the
information of the Honorable the Governor in
Council that a Bugla belonging to a subject of
H. H. the Anam named Saeed bin Mahomed
Bedchoo has lately arrived in Bushire
Harbour bringing some 30 or 40 Negro and
Abyssinian Slaves from Muscat for sale.
I understood the Mahoda gives out that
the Convention lately entered into by the
Anam for the abolition of this traffic only
prohibits the exportation of Slaves from the
African Coast. In this point he is however
certainly mistaken, as the case comes clearly
under the 2^d Article of that Engagement.

2



52.

2 Up to the present date the Com-
mander of the Bugla has sold ten of his
Slaves who have, under existing circumstances
realized unusually high prices, and if this
venture end successfully, will no doubt give
a spur to this nefarious traffic with Persian
Ports. I have given Captain Lowe the Senior
Naval Officer on this Station, due notice of
what is going on, and although nothing
can be done while the Slaver lies at anchor
in a foreign Harbour I trust when she quits
this place on her way to Bussoorah, that
Captain Lowe may take measures for
making it generally known that the Treaties
entered into with the British Government
for the suppression of the Slave Trade in
the Persian Gulf are not a mere dead
letter

I have &c.
(Signed) S. Kemell
Resident &c.



(29) 53

Office No 439 of 1847.
Cons: No 22 of 1847.

To,

A. Malet Esq^r
Secretary to the Government,
Bombay.
Bushire 14th October 1847.

Secret Department

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that the Ex-Chief of Bahrein, Sheik Abdoolah ben Ahmed has suddenly left Lahesh and returned to Durnam. Since his arrival there he has launched one of his Bateels, with what object is not precisely known, but it is surmised, that dissatisfied with the terms upon which the Wahabee Chief Ameer Tysul has offered him an Asylum in Nedjd, the Ex-Chief is about to proceed to the Island of Kenu or Yes, there to join a number of his former adherents, and other disaffected refugees from Bahrein.

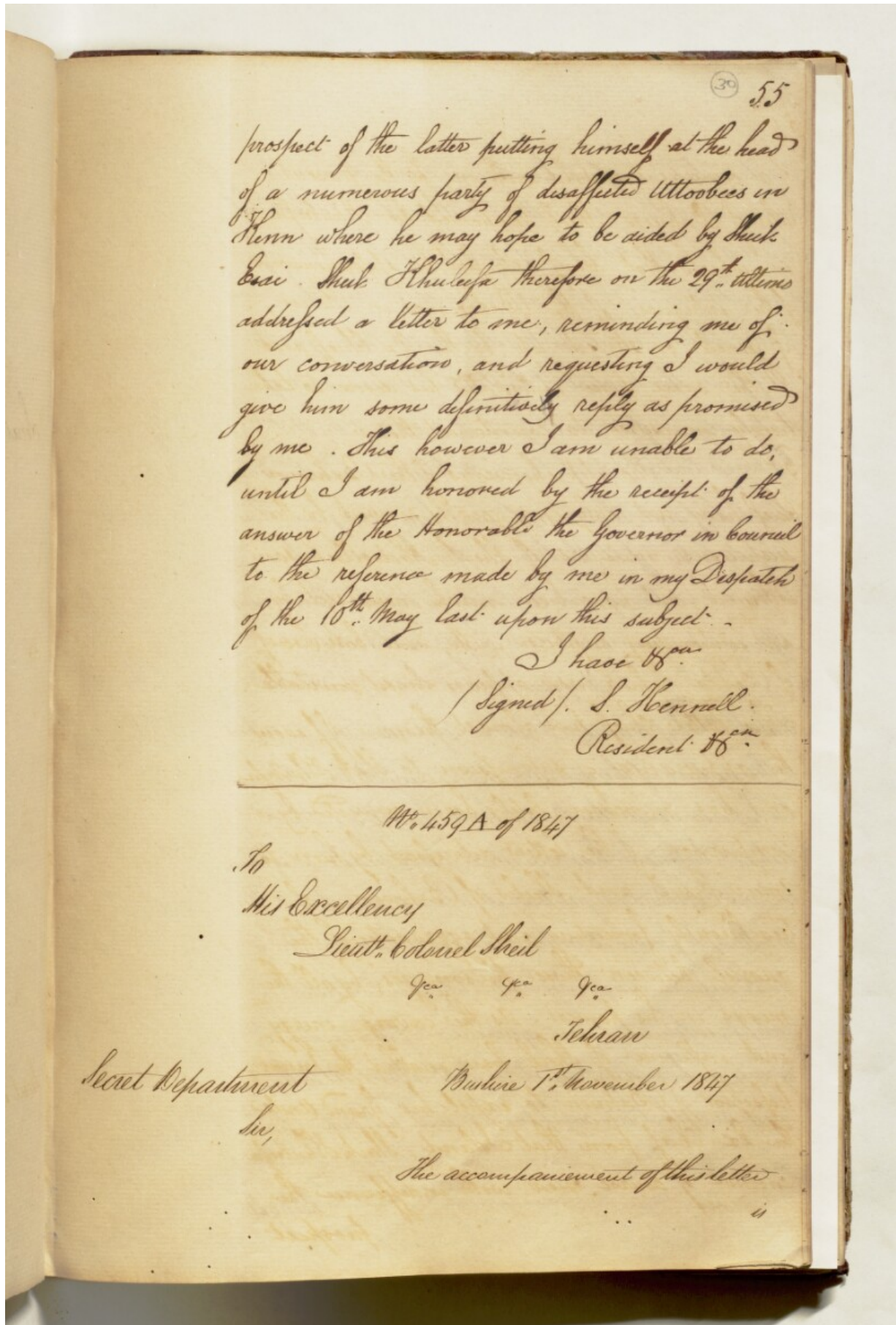
2^d In my Despatch to your address No 3 in this Department under date the 10th May last I had the honor of laying before the Honorable the Governor in Council, the particulars of



54.

of a conversation held with me by the present
ruler of Bahrain Sheikh Mahomed bin Khulafa,
in which that Chief expressed his apprehensions
of the intrigues of the Bahreem in Heron,
if joined, or stirred up by the Ex-Chief and
at the same time intimated his desire to take
timely measures to counteract them.

3 The apprehensions of the Bahrain
Chief have not only been greatly revived by the
suspicious measures of Sheikh Abdoolah bin
Ahmed, but have been much increased by
an impending rupture with Isai ben Sauf
of Uddah, which now appears almost inevitable.
This latter Chief has almost thrown off even
the appearance of submission to Sheikh Khulafa,
and has moreover lately been convicted by a
comparison of the letters addressed by him, to
Amur Tysul and Sheiks of Bahrain, of
treacherously fomenting and aggravating the
quarrel between those personages, by all the
means in his power. As the courage, energy
and influence of Sheikh Isai enabled the present
possessor of Bahrain to expel his Grand uncle
the Ex-Chief from that Island, Sheikh Khulafa
cannot of course view with indifference the
prospect.





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is a translation of an Enclosure received in a communication dated the 10th ultimo from Shaik Syf bin Nuhhan the Governor of Bandar Abasi, on the subject of an extraordinary application, which he states the Imam of Muscat had made to Her Majesty the Queen, for the relief from the control of the Persian Government of that portion of its Territory which is ruled by His Highness and its transfer to my political superintendence. Shaik Syf adds that a reply had been sent from Her Majesty to the effect, that the matter had been referred to Your Excellency, with instructions to take the Imam's Affairs under your own care and guardianship.

2. It appears to me highly probable that Shaik Syf is under some misapprehension in respect to the nature of the correspondence carried on between his Superior and the British Government on this subject, but as he has requested me to make a reference to Your Excellency regarding it, I have considered it necessary to forward a translation of his letter for your information. In my reply thereto I have simply intimated my ignorance of the existence of any such arrangement as that alluded to by him, and that in compliance with his wish I have

brought



21 57
brought the subject of his communication to
your notice.

I have &c.
(Signed) S. Hennell
Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

Translation of an Enclosure in a letter from Sheikh
Syed bin Abdullah, Governor of Bandar Abasi, to Major
Hennell, Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated 5th Oct. 1847.
A.C.

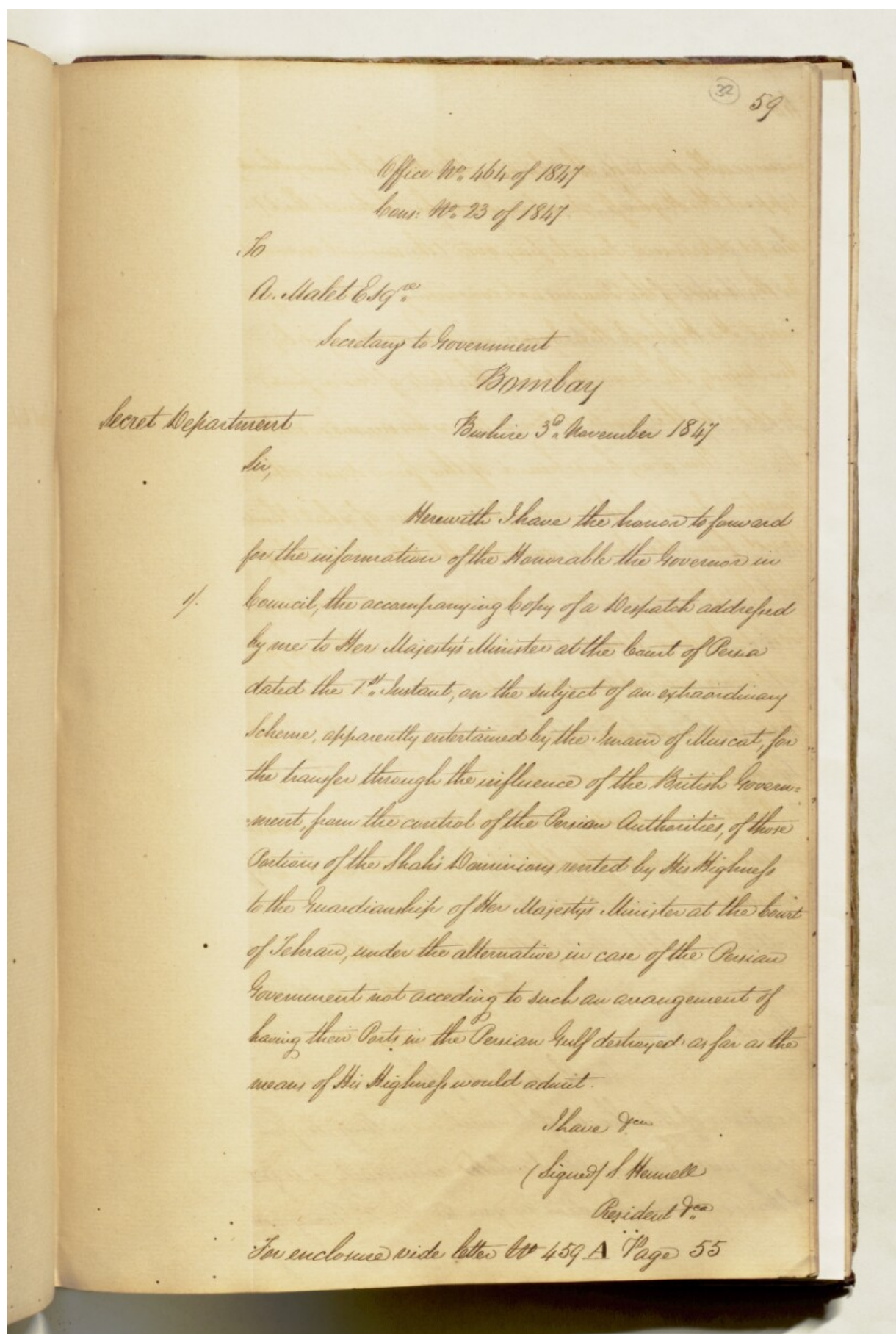
In June last I received a letter from His
Highness the Imam, intimating, that he had written to
Her Majesty the Queen (of Great Britain) requesting that
she would place these Districts in relation with you,
that all references in regard to any affairs, whether small
or great, should be made to you, and the hand of the
Persians be altogether removed from those territories of
my Master Syed Saad, which are subject to them.
When His Highness heard of your visit to me, he thought
it was connected with this Affair. Her Majesty the Queen
in her reply to His Highness the Imam informed him,
that an intimation had been made to the English
Minister in Persia, to the effect that the affairs of Syed
Saad should be placed under his superintendence, and
the interference of the Persians removed from them, and
further that if the Government of the latter should act
inimically



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inimically towards the Imam the British Envoy should
support His Highness. To whomsoever he (Colonel Keith)
should determine, I was to pay over (the annual revenue).
In the event of the Persians not consenting to this arrange-
ment His Highness the Imam was to be authorized by
Her Majesty the Queen to destroy the Ports of Persia from
Bushire to the coasts of Persia, as far as his means would
admit. You may have heard of this from some other
Quarter. I wrote before and informed you of what I had
heard from the Imam, and sent the letter to the Chief
of Bushire for the purpose of being conveyed in one of his
Boats to Bushire, I trust it has been received; although I
not having received any reply, I fear it has not reached
you. I have therefore considered it necessary to bring the
Affair to your notice in order that you may submit it
to Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Persia, and hear
from him in respect to what I have written and
detailed.

True translation
(Signed) S. Hennell
Resident &c



Office No. 464 of 1847
trans. No. 23 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq.

Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushie 3rd November 1847

Sir,

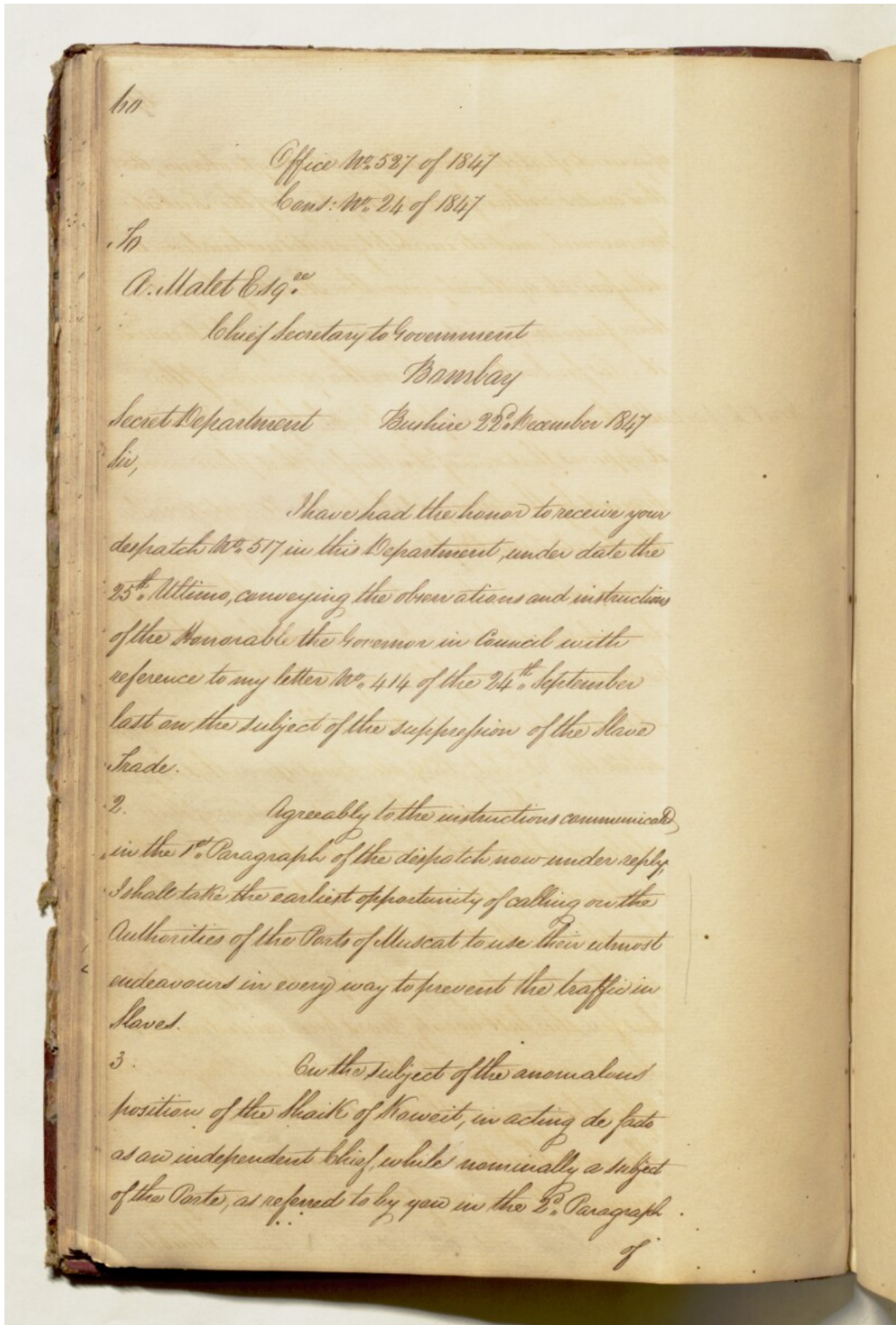
Herewith I have the honor to forward
for the information of the Honorable the Governor in
Council, the accompanying copy of a despatch addressed
by me to Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Persia
dated the 1st Instant, on the subject of an extraordinary
scheme, apparently entertained by the Shah of Muscat, for
the transfer through the influence of the British Govern-
ment, from the control of the Persian Authorities, of those
Portions of the Shahi Dominions vested by His Highness
to the Guardianship of Her Majesty's Minister at the Court
of Tehran, under the alternative, in case of the Persian
Government not acceding to such an arrangement of
having those Ports in the Persian Gulf destroyed, as far as the
means of His Highness would admit.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. Hume

Resident &c.

In enclosure vide letter No 459 A Page 55



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Office No 527 of 1847
Cons: No 24 of 1847

To

A. Malet Esq.^{re}

Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay

Secret Department Buxhiv 22^d December 1847

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your
despatch No 517 in this Department, under date the
25th Ultimo, conveying the observations and instructions
of the Honorable the Governor in Council with
reference to my letter No 414 of the 24th September
last on the subject of the suppression of the Slave
Trade.

2. Agreeably to the instructions communicated
in the 1st Paragraph of the despatch now under reply,
I shall take the earliest opportunity of calling on the
Authorities of the Ports of Muscat to use their utmost
endeavours in every way to prevent the traffic in
Slaves.

3. On the subject of the anomalous
position of the Shaikh of Koweit, in acting de facto
as an independent chief, while nominally a subject
of the Porte, as referred to by you in the 2^d Paragraph
of



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of your despatch above alluded to, I beg to observe, that
this arises rather from the weakness of the Turkish
Government, and its inability or disinclination to
interfere its authority over the Shaikh of Rowait,
than from any question regarding its right to exercise
it. As far back as 1775 on the occasion of the
attack and capture of Bussorah by the Persians;
it appears that one of the Chiefs of that place accom-
panied by the principal Inhabitants, and several
Merchants from Bussorah removed to Zebana, which
would indicate the existence of more than usually
close relations between Rowait and the Turkish
Government. The following Extract of a letter
addressed by me, to the Honorable the Secret Committee
dated the 25th July 1839 also bears upon this subject.

"Regarding the precise nature of the
"relations of Rowait or Graue (the Seaport near the
"Embouchure of the Euphrates referred to by Colonel
"Campbell) with the Turkish Government, I cannot
"speak with certainty, but unquestionably, the place
"has for the last twenty Years been considered as
"closely connected with the Pashalic of Bagdad. The
"Vessels belonging to that Port all carry the Turkish
"Flag, and Shaikh Sabir the Governor receives an
"annual allowance of 200 Morahs of Dates from
Blubda



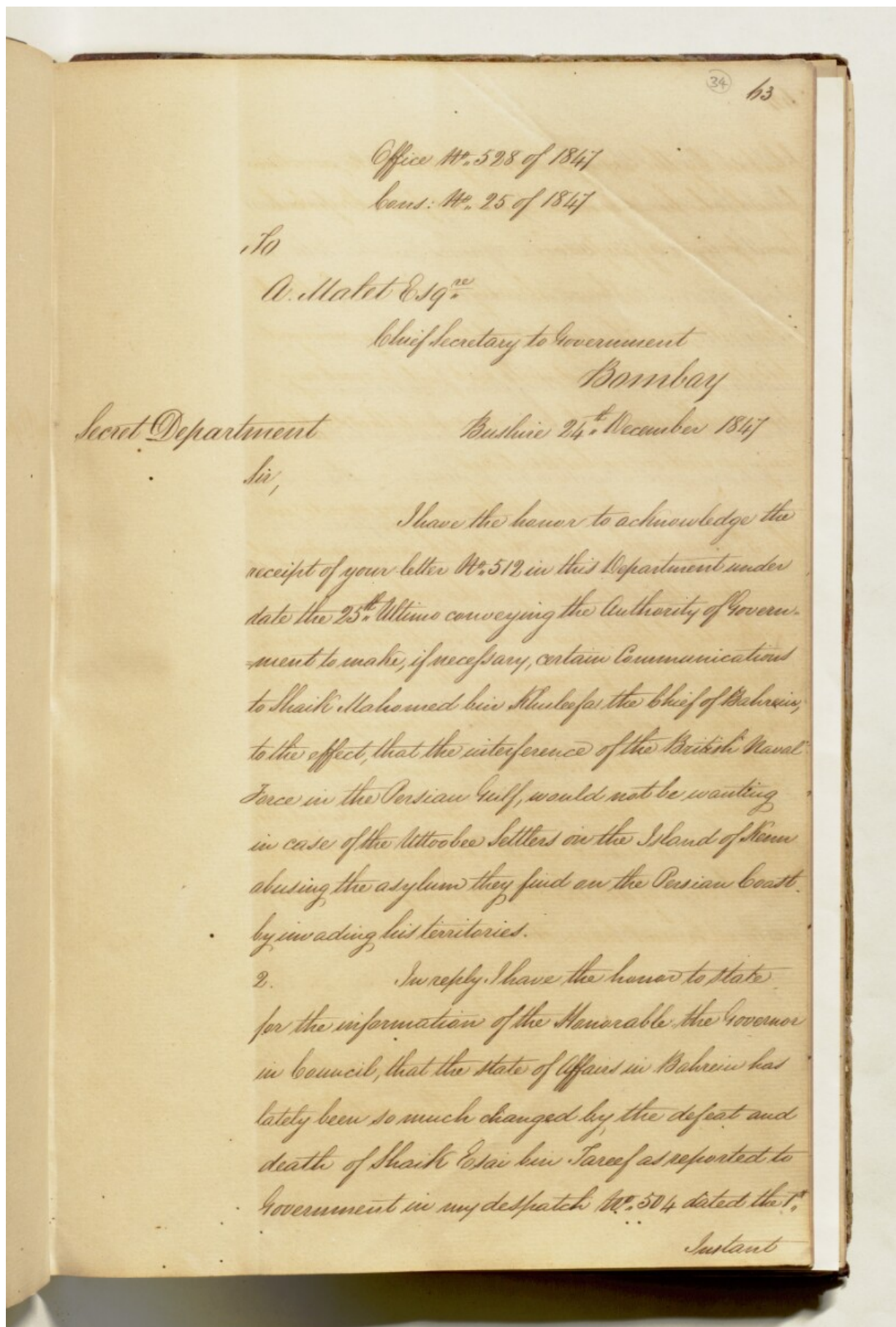
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"shoulder by the express orders of the Porte, in return
for which he is bound to protect ~~from~~ Bosphorus
from foreign aggression".

4. I have already written to the Shaikh
of Kuwait upon the subject of Slaves being conveyed
to his Port for sale, and will not fail to exert my
utmost influence with him to prevent this traffic
being carried on in his territories.

5. In reply to the inquiry made in
the 5th Paragraph of Your despatch now under copy,
regarding the best time for the interception in
the Straits of Babelmandel of such Vessels as may
be legally seizable for carrying on the Slave Trade, I
have the honor to state for the information of
the Honorable the Governor in Council, that I
have reason to believe the two Months between the
1st of September and the 30th of October are those in
which nearly all the Boats engaged in this
Trade enter and leave the Red Sea.

I have &c.
(Signed) J. Hennell
Resident &c.

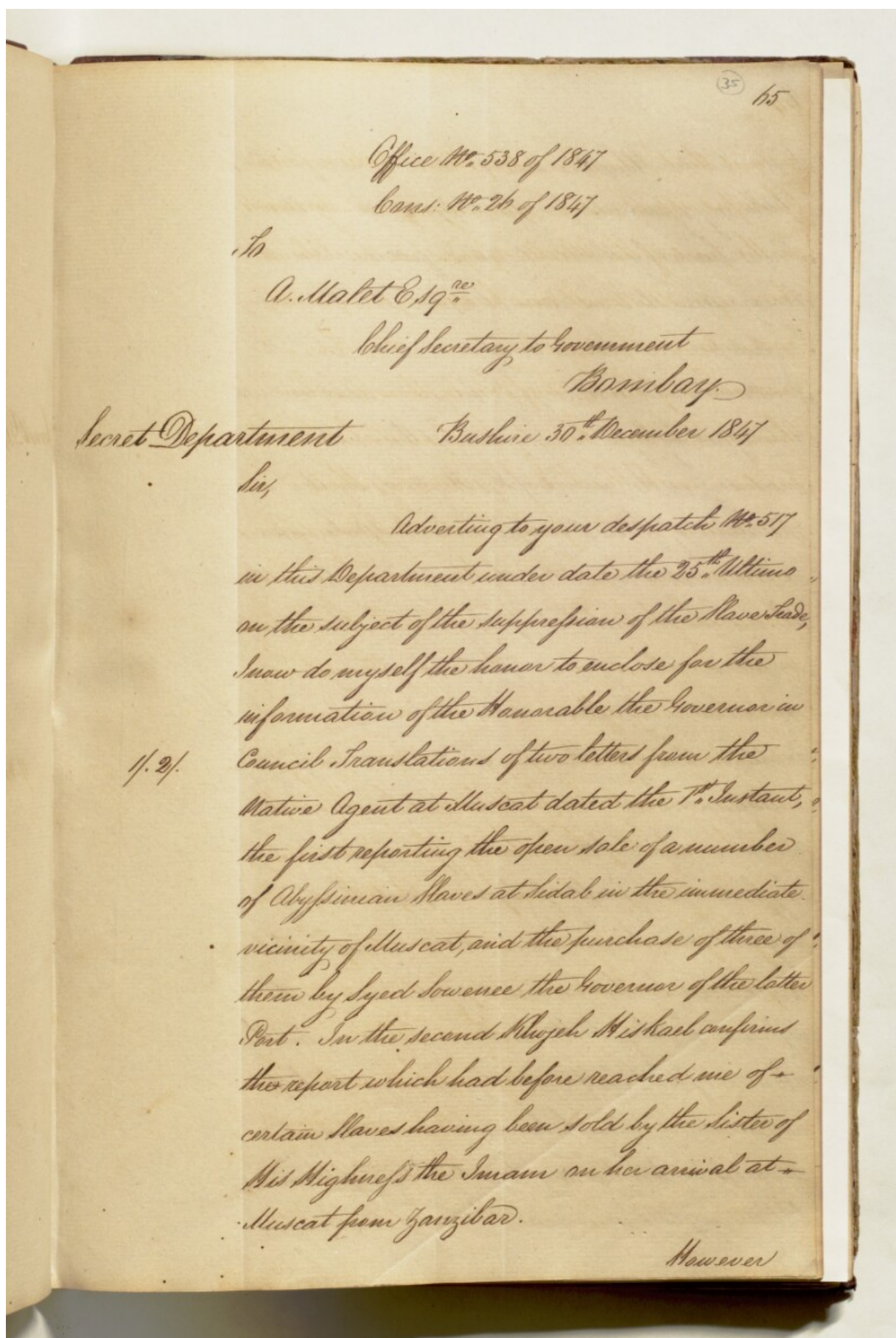


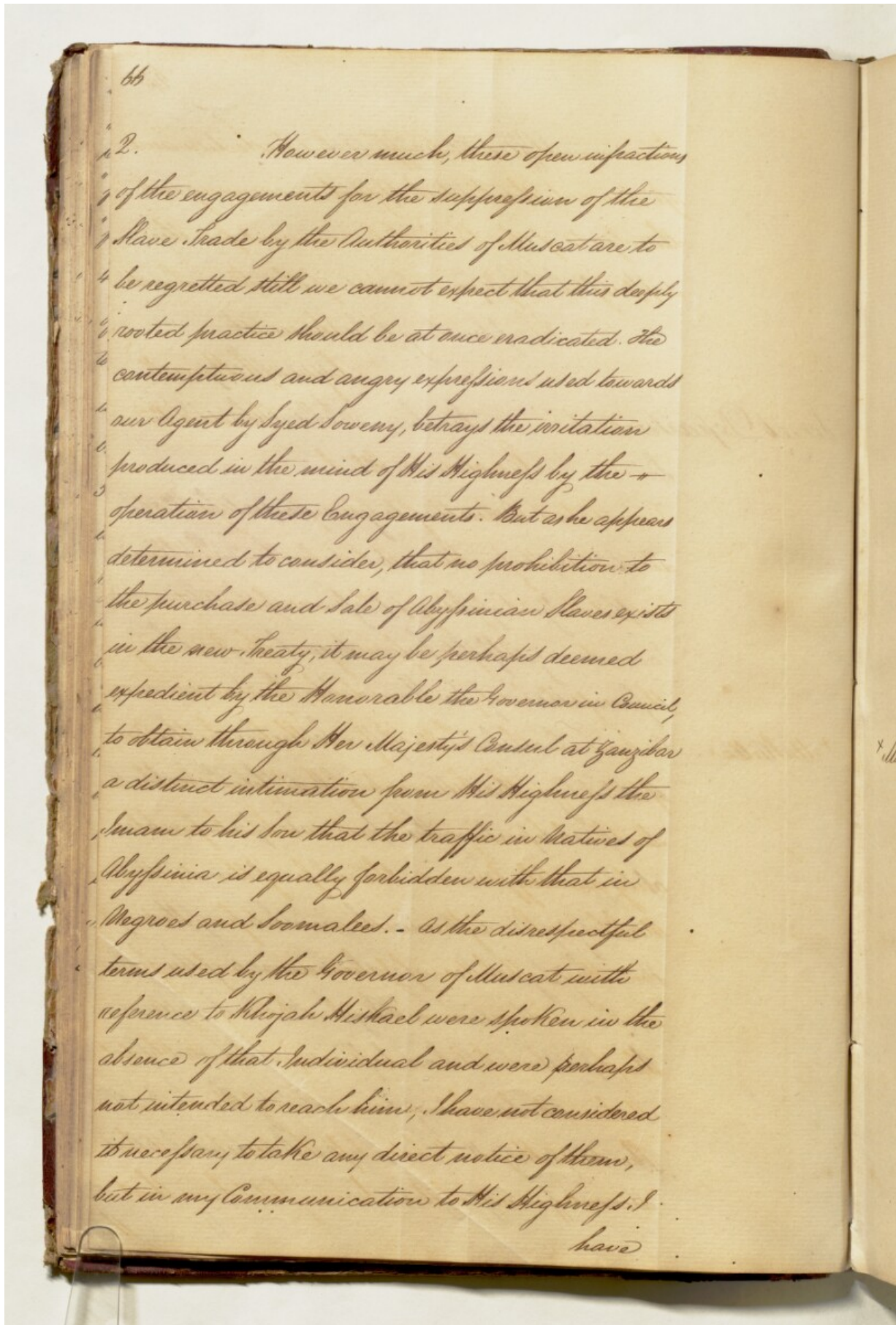


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I think it likely, Shaikh Mahomed bin
Mubeyn's apprehension of any aggressive movements
on the part of the Utrookee refugees on the Island
above referred to must now be entirely dissipated,
particularly as he is probably aware that the
endeavours of the Ex Chief Shaikh Abdollah bin
Mubeyn to induce them to join him in his late
Coalition with Shaikh Esai failed altogether. I
have received a letter from the most influential
person among the Settlers in Kown, in which he
assures me that not a man joined the Ex Chief in
the late hostilities against Bahrein although he
made tempting offers to them to do so. Under these
circumstances it is not my intention to make any
communication to Shaikh Mahomed bin Mubeyn
upon the subject of the Authority I have received, -
unless he again presses me for a reply to the requisitions
brought forward by him in the course of his
conference with me in May last.

I have &c
(Signed) J. Hennell
Resident &c





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2. However much, these open infractions
of the engagements for the suppression of the
Slave Trade by the Authorities of Muscat are to
be regretted still we cannot expect that this deeply
rooted practice should be at once eradicated. The
contemptuous and angry expressions used towards
our Agent by Syed Sowany, betrays the irritation
produced in the mind of His Highness by the
operation of these engagements. But as he appears
determined to consider, that no prohibition to
the purchase and Sale of Abyssinian Slaves exists
in the new treaty, it may be, perhaps deemed
expedient by the Honorable the Governor in Council,
to obtain through Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar
a distinct intimation from His Highness the
Sultan to his Son that the traffic in natives of
Abyssinia is equally forbidden with that in
Negroes and Somalees. - As the disrespectful
terms used by the Governor of Muscat with
reference to Khajab Miskael were spoken in the
absence of that individual and were perhaps
not intended to reach him, I have not considered
it necessary to take any direct notice of them,
but in my Communication to His Highness I
have



36 67
have requested him to afford his protection and
assistance to the British Agent in carrying out
the objects of the British Government for the
suppression of every species of the Slave Trade.

I have &c
(Signed) S. Hennell
Resident &c

Enclosure No. 1.

Translated Extract of a letter from Agent at
Muscat to Major Hennell, Resident in the Persian
Gulf, dated 22nd Jilbij - 1st December 1847.

+ Makulla
I beg to inform you that among
the vessels lately arrived here, there came one
a Dow. on the 15th Nov^r from Shehr the property
of Ali Hajee the Governor of that place, Makhodah
Makboob having on board one black female
only an Abyssinian the wife of the said
Makhodah. Afterwards arrived from Hodeidah
one Hajee Mehdee of Jahroon a passenger
on board a vessel called Abree belonging to
Sheikaw bin Saleh a native of Shehr, Makhodah
Mubarrak bin Suron a native of Hauser -
The said Hajee Mehdee left the vessel at Misbat
in consequence of their having told him that
the



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the Government vessels were cruising at sea in search
of any who might have slaves in their possession. For
this reason he disembarked off Mirbat into a budun
(small boat) belonging to one of the Beni too Ali of
Soor. I could not discover the owner of the boat (the
freight of which from Mirbat to Muscat was 36 Rellahs).
On his arrival here at night he landed the slaves he
had brought with him, 12 in number, Abyssinians,
10 Women and 2 Eunuchs, at Sidab; and took a
house for them and openly exposed them for sale
and His Highness Syed Sawaynee bought three of
them one Eunuch and two females. When I heard
this on the 25th Nov. I wrote a note to His Highness
acquainting him with the arrival of the above from
Hodeidah and the number of slaves he had
brought and referring to the three purchased by
His Highness. I further called his attention to the
two slave girls some time ago imported in the
luglah of Bin Munsoor the one an Abyssinian
the other an African which latter was sold by the
son of Khusey a Brother to Mr. Stukrom the Afghan.
Before represented to you that the said
slaves had been sold here but on further inquiry
I found that one only the African had been
disposed



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disposed of and not the Abyssinian who remained
in the hands of her owner.

I then acquainted His Highness with
the stringent prohibition which had reached me
from you touching the importation from those
parts of any Slaves whatever whether African,
Abyssinian or others and with the necessity of
interdicting and punishing whomsoever might
bring them.

On the 27th November being the (Jews)
Sabbath I received an answer from His Highness
having reference to his obligation to interdict and
punish any persons whom he might ascertain to
have brought Slaves and to compel Mustehem the
Afghann to restore the African Slave Girl he had
bought to her owner and recover her price she
remaining with the latter interdicted from sale,
but His Highness overlooked my intimation regarding
Hajee Mehdee and the Abyssinian Slaves he
brought with him except indeed (he alluded to
them) as Abyssinians brought from Yemen touching
whom he wished to see and converse with me
personally on Sunday at his own house. Accordingly
on the Sunday after Sunrise I went to His
Highness



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Highness at his house, He was then preparing
to proceed to Tullij to visit one of the Al bo Saed
who was sick and when I met him His Highness
said to me "so now and I will give you an answer
tomorrow on every point." This was the 28th November
and His Highness went to Tullij. Copies of my note
and of the answer are herewith enclosed. His
Highness returned from Tullij in the evening of
the same day and I waited patiently for his answer
but none reaching me by the 30th November, I
wrote him another Note to which I received a
reply on the following day. Copies of these are
enclosed.
"This," His Highness observed with regard
to me, "this wretch! Where has he orders relating
to Abyssinians. Does he (desire to) send it over me
too? By God, if he comes near me I will do so and
so, By God, I will give him no answer, not a
word". I understand that Syed Mohammed bin
Salim summoned Hajee Hussein Shoolan and
Hajee Abdullah Al Jumeal and observed to them,
"My Brother Syed Sovereign in your presence I
Hussein made an engagement with Meshial
to meet him, and now from what I see it is not
his



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"his intention to receive him and Hishkall will not
"be put off without an answer; His Highness must
"certainly write. He & Husein make my compliments
"to my Brother Sanyanee and say, Your Brother
"Mahomed will come to you in the afternoon."
and "You Husein attend with me; I will send for
"Hishkall and speak to him," and Major Husein
went and communicated the message of Syed &
Mahomed bin Salim to His Highness Syed Sanyanee,
and His Highness' answer to Major Husein was
"My compliments to him and tell him if he desires
"to come he will be welcome, but I will not send
"for that wretch nor do I wish to see his face. He
"imposes on us regulations which cannot be."
Major Husein endeavoured to persuade His Highness
but he would not yield in the slightest degree.
I care not for the remarks of others. Whatever
you may Command I will observe and carry
through. I await your instructions for my
guidance in this and other matters.

True translated Extract

(Signed) F. B. Kimball

Offic. Resident Genl.

Enclosure No. 2.

Translated



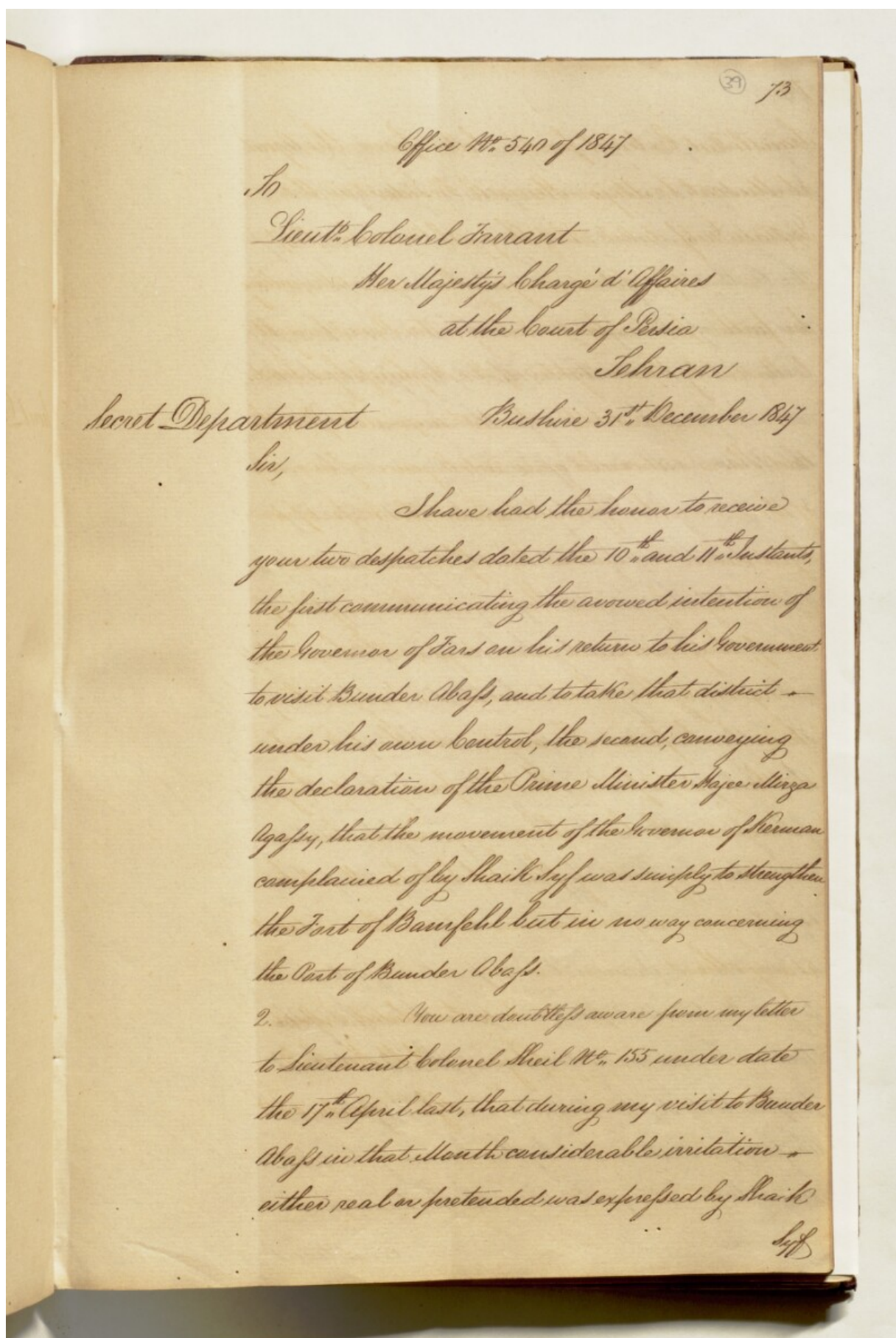
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Translated. Extract from a letter from the Agent
at Muscat to Major Hennell Resident in the
Persian Gulf dated 22^d Zilhidj - 1st December 1847.

After acknowledging Residents letter calling
for further particulars relating to the Slaves brought
to Muscat by the daughter of His Highness Syed Saad.

I made the strictest inquiries after the
said Slaves but could gain intelligence of two only
of their number females whom the Wife of
Syed Salim bin Sultan herself sold to a woman
of Bakrein by name Shumersa the daughter of
Eusuf, they remained some days with her but
subsequently the above mentioned lady took
them back from Shumersa on the plea of
not being satisfied with their price, and they
are now with her - I have gained no clue
whatever regarding the rest but I will not be
wanting in my endeavours to trace them as well
as any others.

True translated Extract
(Signed) A. B. Hennell
Agent Resident V.





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Syfa on the part of himself and His Highness the
Imam of Muscat, in consequence of the alleged
oppressive conduct and aggressive proceedings of
the Authorities of Pers, and that it required the
exertion of all my influence to dissuade Shaik Syf
from acting upon the Authority he asserted he had
received from his Sovereign the Imam to blockade
the Ports on the Coast of Persia.

3. His Majesty's Minister at the Court of
Tehran in his reply dated the 12th August strongly
deprecated the execution of any measure of the
Character threatened by the Governor of Bunder Abbas,
and in expressing his doubts that any Military
operation was intended against that Port, added
that his opinion was strengthened by the declarations
of Houssein Khan that no danger of the nature
suspected by Shaik Syf had been contemplated
by him.

4. I am not in a position just now
to give a decisive opinion upon the right of the
Persian Government to resume, should it think
proper to do so, the districts and Port of Bunder
Abass at present rented by the Imam of Muscat,
since I am unacquainted with the terms and
conditions



(40) 75

conditions of His Highness' tenure, but I am perfectly
sure that Syed Saad will resent such a measure
as one of direct hostility and will no doubt retaliate
by not only blockading Bender Abas but also all
the principal Ports on the Persian Coast. The hostile
presence of a single ship from the Muscat Fleet
off the former place would put an effectual stop
to the realization of the 40,000 Tomans contemplated
by Noussiri Khan, as the larger portion of the
revenues is derived from the import and export
duties levied there.

5. Under such a provocation as the
Iranian would doubtless consider the resumption
by the Persian Government of districts so long
held in fief by him, it may become a question
whether we could legitimately interfere to prevent
His Highness from adopting those measures he
might deem expedient under the circumstances.
It cannot however be disguised that the blockade
or attack of the principal Ports on the Persian
Coast particularly those of Bender Abas, Lingah
and Bushire would be exceedingly detrimental
both to our own commercial interests and the
pacific policy we have hitherto so successfully
carried

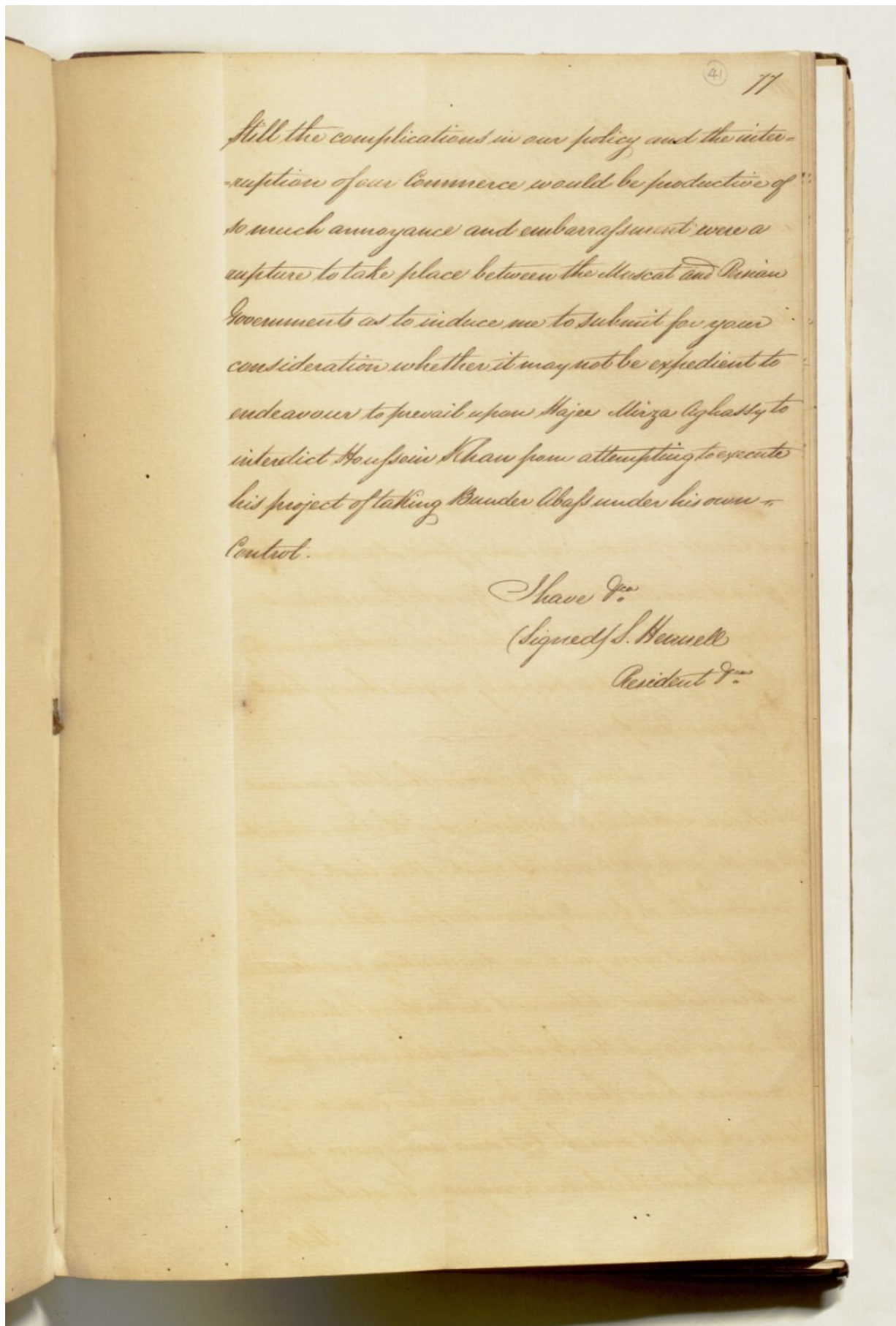


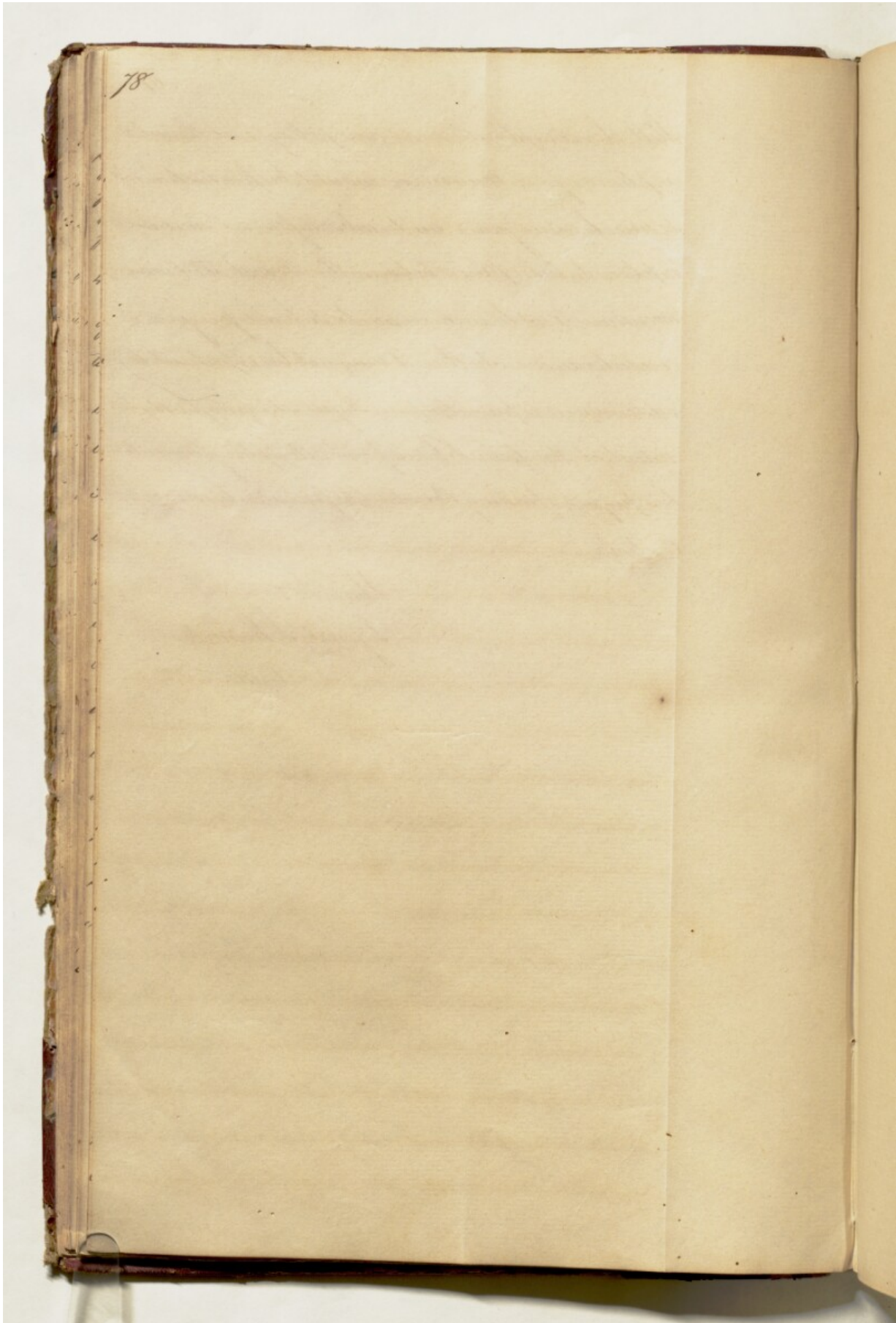
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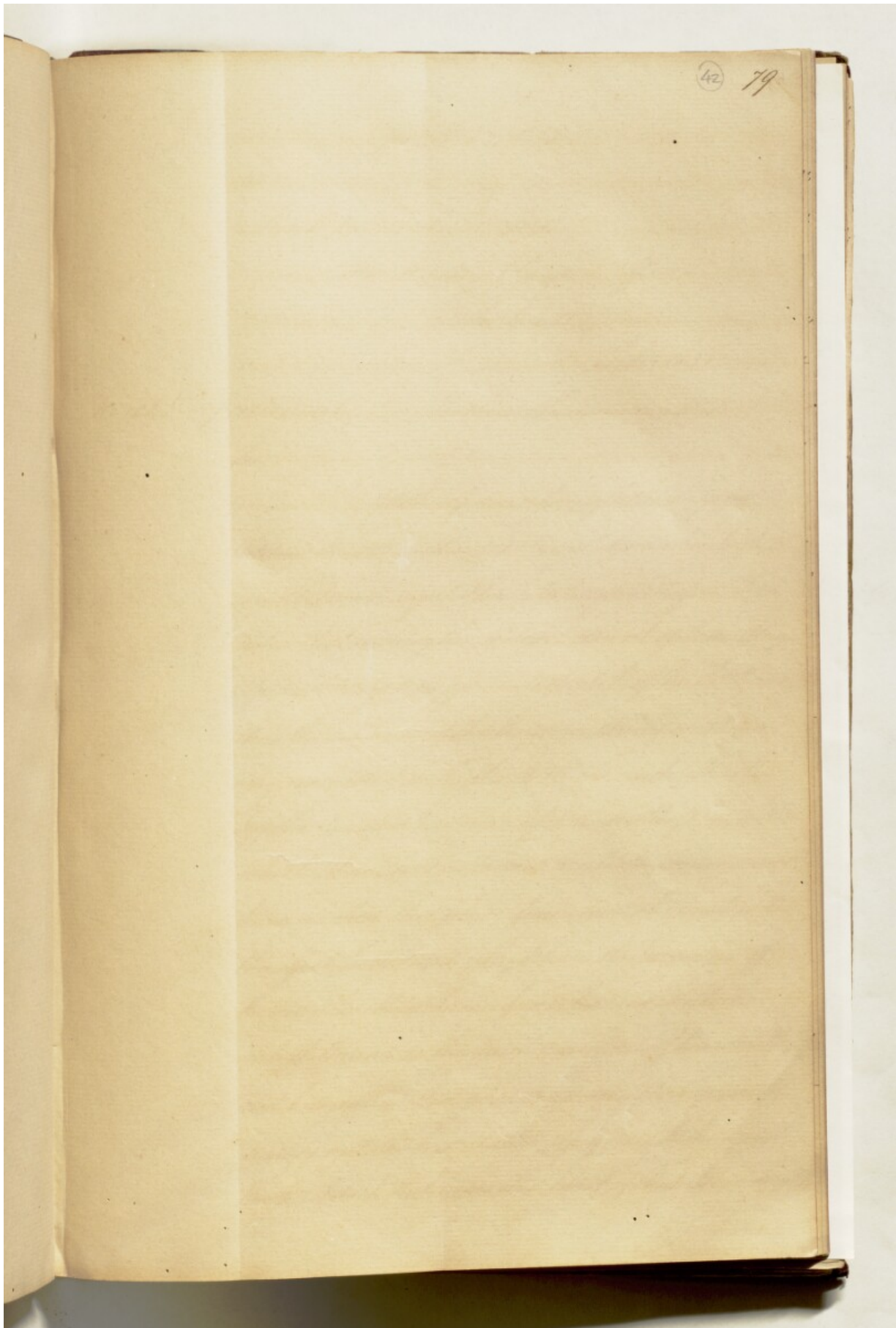
carried out in this quarter. The Imam has many
Allies and Dependents on the Arabian Coast, who
are as powerful at sea as the Persian Government
is weak, and who would most readily join with His
Highness in hostilities against the Ports of the latter
Country. But were those Chiefs once released from
the salutary check at present placed upon their
predatory inclinations, and permitted to indulge
unrestrained in aggressions on the Commerce
and Coasts of Persia, we may find it a somewhat
difficult matter to restore affairs to their present
footing, and to re-establish the peace and tranquillity
which at present so happily reigns throughout
the Persian Gulf.

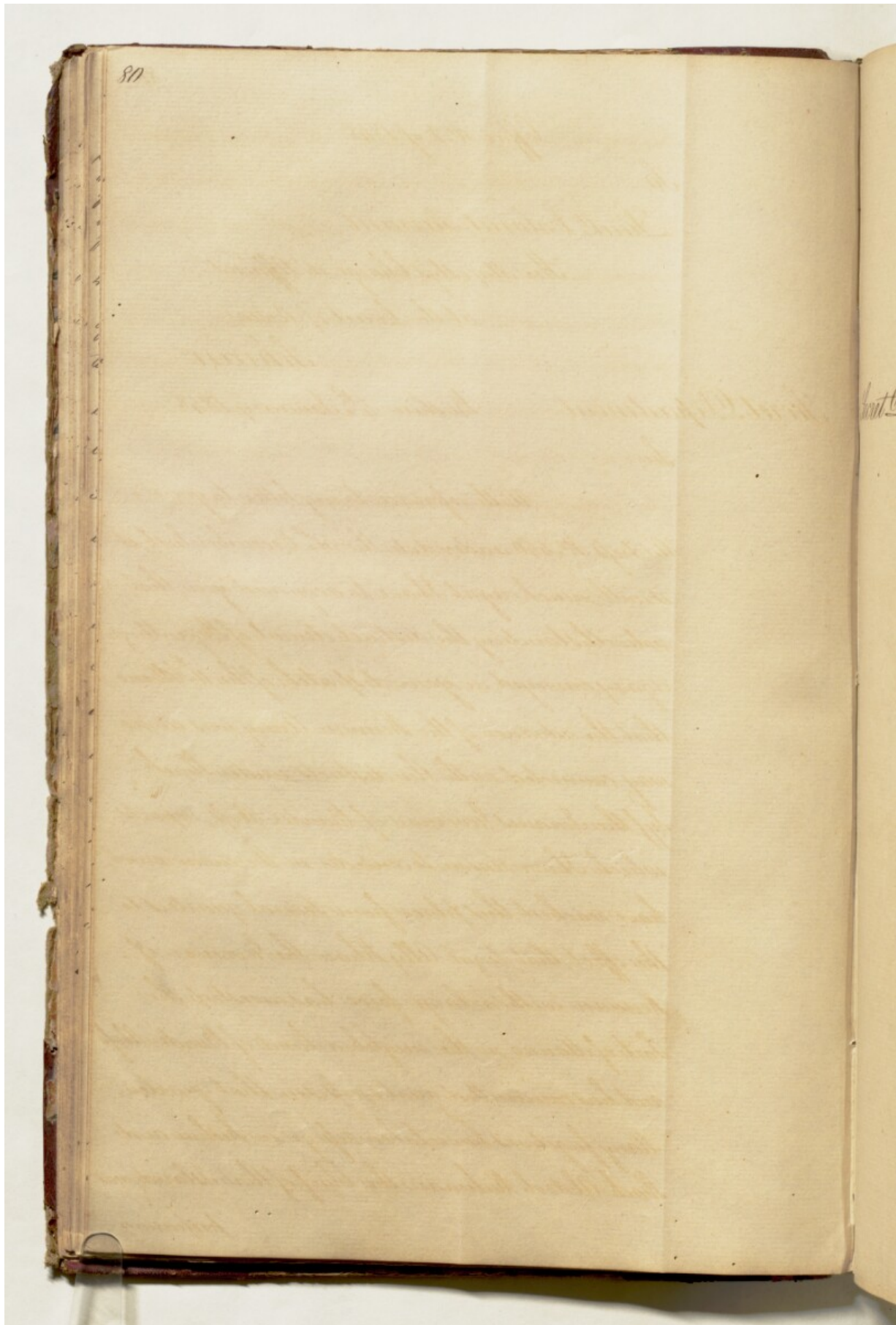
6. I am fully aware that the ignorant
pride and obstinate suspicions of the Prime Minister
Hajee Mirza Assef, would render it a task of
considerable difficulty to make him believe that
our Motives were pure in deprecating any alterations
in the relations at present subsisting between
the Imam and the Shah, and at the same time
to convince him that the former has it in his
power to inflict much loss and annoyance upon
Persia, without the latter being able to retaliate.

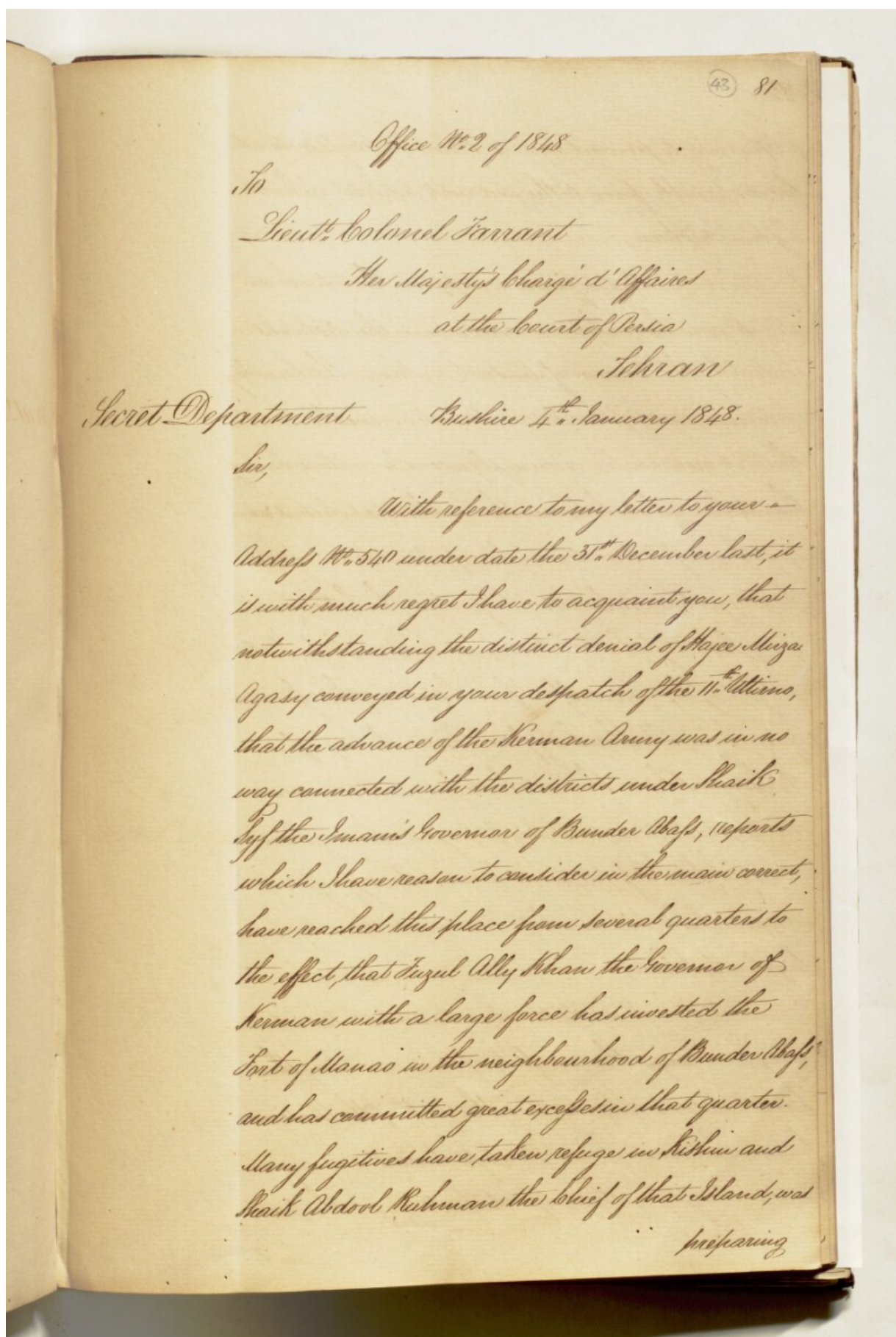
Still













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preparing to proceed over to Bunder Abas with all
his disposable force to the aid and support of Shaikh
Syf bin Nubhan.

2. It is difficult to suppose that such an
attack can have been made upon the districts
ruled by the Imam of Muscat, without the knowledge
or connivance of the Prime Minister. Whether under
the not improbable circumstance of a rupture having
thus taken place between the Authorities of Muscat
and those of Persia, it may be expedient to act upon
the suggestion submitted to you in the latter part
of my letter of the 31st December last, will be best
judged of by yourself. I fear however, the assurance
given by me to Shaikh Syf, on the authority of
Houssein Khan that no hostile measures were in
contemplation against his possessions may have
rendered him less prepared to resist the aggressive
inroad which has now been made into them by
Fazul Ally Khan.

3. It is possible the Muscat Authorities
may now urge the necessity of their executing their
former design of blockading the Ports of the Persian
Coast, and in such case unless it were in my
power to assure them of satisfaction for the past
and



44 83.

security for the future, I really do not see how far
I should be justified in offering any direct opposition
to their intentions. I have however applied to the
Government of Bombay for instructions for my
guidance in the present state of affairs.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Munell

Resident &c.

Office No. 3 of 1848

Cons. No. 1 of 1848

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 4th January 1848

Sir,

1/2/

I have the honor to transmit for the
information of the Honorable the Governor in
Council copies of two despatches from Lieut. Colonel
Tanant Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at the Court of
Tehran dated the 10th and 11th December last on
the subject of intentions of the Persian Authorities
towards the Port of Bunder Abbas and the neighbouring
districts



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Districts rented by His Highness the Imam of
Muscat from the Persian Government. At the same
time I beg to enclose transcripts of two Communica- 3/4/
tions dated the 31st December and the day addressed
by me to Colonel Samant upon the same subject.

2. It is to be feared, the aggressive and
hostile proceedings of the Governor of Hormuz in
destroying the neighbourhood of Illanao and investing
that Port may now occasion a serious rupture between
the Imam and the Persian Government. In this
case it appears likely that the Authorities of Muscat
will press their intention of operating with their Naval
Forces against the Coasts of Persia in retaliation of the
hostile proceedings of the Governor of Hormuz, -
particularly as they may conceive this to be the only
means of relieving themselves of the presence of his
Army. In case of any application to me from His
Highness Syed Sowmy or Shaik Syf upon this
point I shall endeavour to avoid a direct reply
until I can receive the instructions of the Honourable
the Governor in Council for my guidance.

I have &c

(Signed) J. Hennell

Resident &c

Sir



The enclosure No^t. 1 vide letter from Col. Tennant dated M^c. Decr. 1847
— " ——— 2 " " " " "
— " ——— 3 " " Mt. 540 Page 73.
— " ——— 4 " " N^{o.} 2 Page 81.

Office N^o. 22 of 1848
Cons. N^o. 2 of 1848

To

A. Malet Esq^r.

Chief Secretary to Government

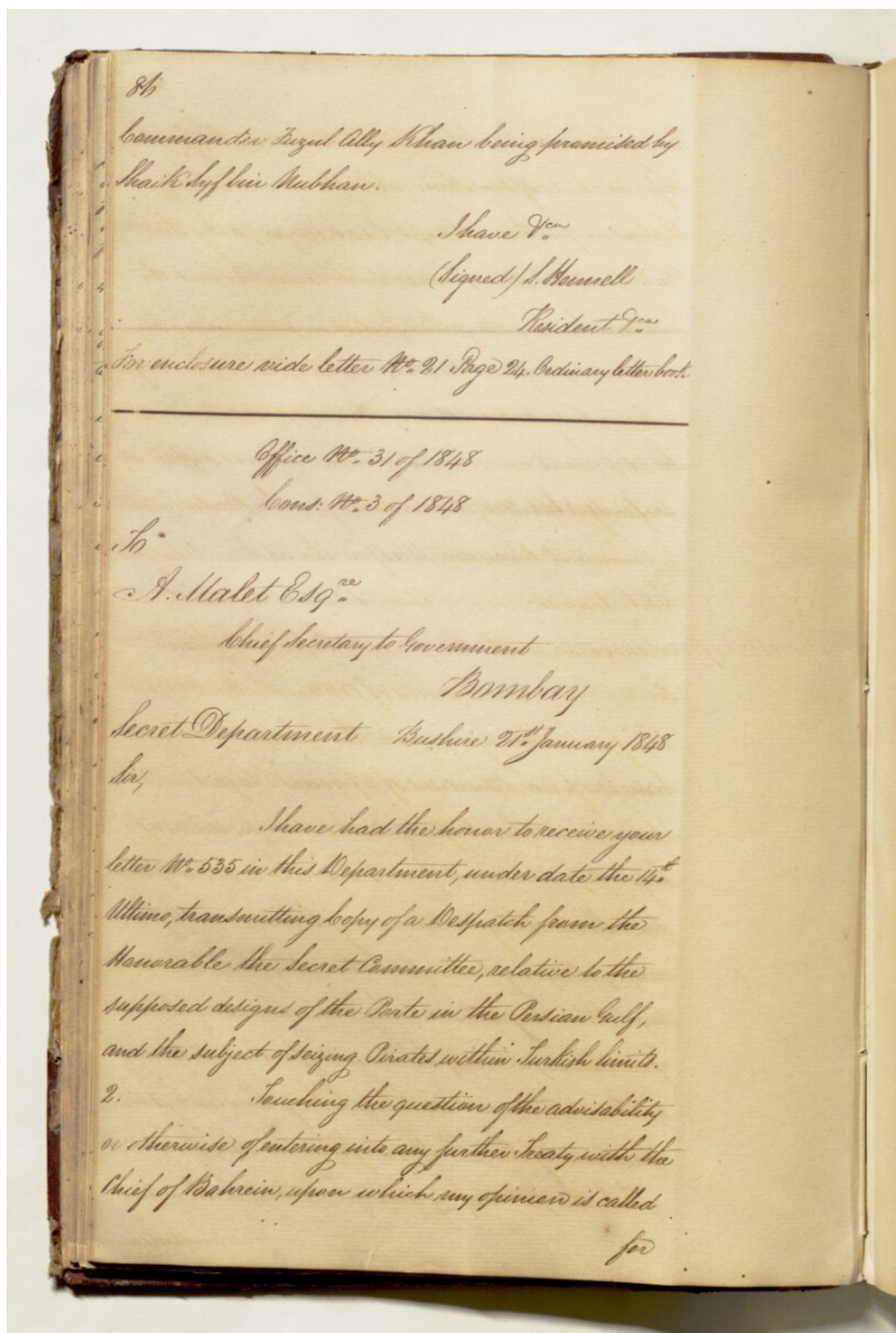
Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 15th January 1848.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch to your
address No. 1 in this Department under date the 3rd
Instant on the subject of Bunder Woff, I now do
myself the honor to forward for the information
of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the
accompanying copy of a letter addressed by me this
day to Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at the Court
of Persia reporting the siege of Manas having
been raised, and the neighbouring Districts
vacated by the Persian Army on the payment
of about 12,000 Company's Rupees to the
Commander





(46) 87

for by Government, I have the honor to state, for the
information of the Honorable the Governor in Council,
that as no further attempt, has been made by the
Pate to extend its influence in this quarter, and the
last one having altogether failed in persuading any
of the independant Arabian Chiefs of the Persian Gulf to
acknowledge its authority, there appears to me to
be at present an absence of circumstances sufficiently
pressing to render it advisable for the British
Government to involve itself in the embarrassments
likely to arise out of a closer or more intimate
connexion with the present ruler of Bahrein.

3. Our Treaties of 1820 with the Utroba
Chief, who then governed the Island, have now
been in force upwards of 27 years: A fact which
I venture to think, fully settles the question of
his independence. There is however a point of view
in which this question may become one of
importance, I allude to the very close relations
now forming between the Governments of France
and Persia. The appointment of a French Consul
at Bushire is not unlikely to be followed by the
presence of French Ships of War in these Seas
while the pertinacity and earnestness with which

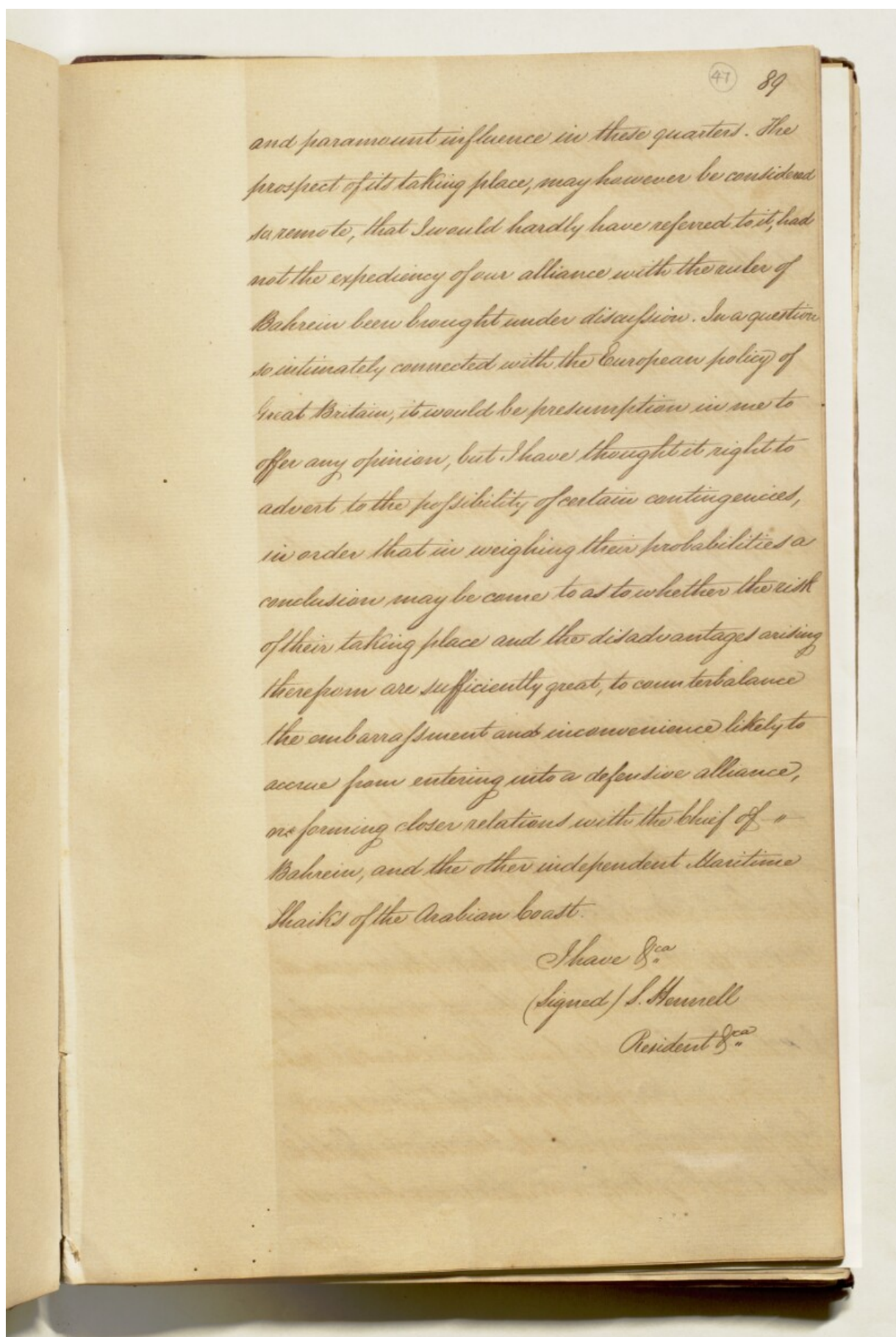
Monsieur



88

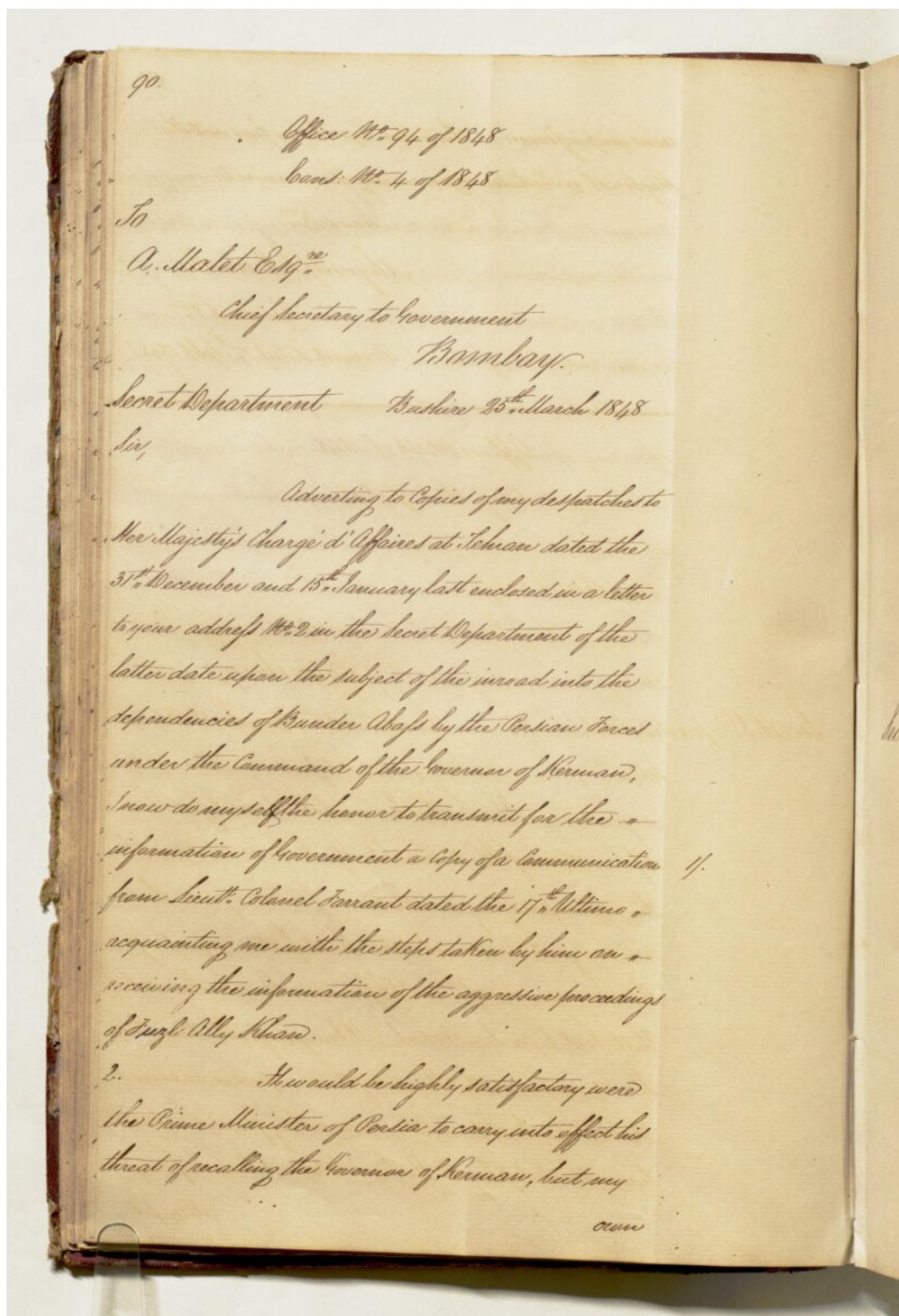
Monsieur Guizot is pursuing his cherished schemes for the extension of French influence in the East, render it unlikely, that the Persian Gulf will be overlooked. It is much to be feared that an intriguing Agent in Bushire backed by the presence of a Naval Force in the Gulf may be able to embarrass our policy and perhaps diminish our influence.

4. The expulsion of Shaik Abdoolah bin Ahmed, the rightful Chief of Bahrein, by his grand-nephews of the Al Shukefa, and the entire failure of all his endeavours to regain his lost authority over that Island, would appear a tempting opening for French intrigue. I have little doubt, that under his present hopeless circumstances, the Ex. Chief would gladly accept any terms, however stringent, which would expel the present possessors of Bahrein, and place him ostensibly in his former position. Thus, in the shape of taking that Island under the protection of the King of the French, or even perhaps purchasing his rights from Shaik Abdoolah, Bahrein might become de facto if not in name a French possession, an event which I presume would be considered as vitally injurious to our Interests
and



(47) 89
and paramount influence in these quarters. The
prospect of its taking place, may however be considered
so remote, that I would hardly have referred to it, had
not the expediency of our alliance with the ruler of
Bahrain been brought under discussion. In a question
so intimately connected with the European policy of
Great Britain, it would be presumption in me to
offer any opinion, but I have thought it right to
advert to the possibility of certain contingencies,
in order that in weighing their probabilities a
conclusion may be come to as to whether the risk
of their taking place and the disadvantages arising
therefrom are sufficiently great, to counterbalance
the embarrassment and inconvenience likely to
accrue from entering into a defensive alliance,
or forming closer relations with the chief of
Bahrain, and the other independent Maritime
Shaiks of the Arabian Coast.

I have &c
(Signed) L. Munnell
Resident &c





(48) 91.

own impression is that His Excellency has not the
slightest intention of executing this menace.

Shave & Co

(Signed) J. Hennell

Resident & Co

For enc: vide letter from Col: Tennant dated 17th Feb. 1848.

Office No. 96 of 1848

Cons: No. 5 of 1848

To

A. Malet Esq^{re}

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 30th March 1848

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit for the
information of the Honorable the Governor in Council,
the accompanying translation of a letter from the
Native Agent at Muscat dated the 29th ultimo, reporting
the conveyance of five Abyssinian female slaves to
that Port by a soon vessel. It being possible that these
slaves composed the Harem of their respective owners it
is not I think at present a case calling for notice, but I
have directed Khajah H. Shiat to report to me if any
attempt



92

attempt is made to sell them. I have however but little
hope that any attention will be paid by His Highness
Sayed Sawoon to any remonstrances on this subject
after his having so openly proclaimed the little respect
in which he holds his Father's Engagements by becoming
himself the purchaser of four Abyssinian Slave Girls
from Hajee Mehdee ul Jahoonnee, and permitting
the public sale of eight others. I would therefore respect-
fully suggest for the consideration of His Honor in
Council whether it may not be expedient to bring this
circumstance to the notice of His Highness the Imam
with a view to his enjoining the Muscat Authorities to
carry into effect the Terms of the Treaty for the suppression
of the Slave Trade more strictly than they have hitherto
done.

I have &c

(Signed) J. Hennell

Resident &c

Enclosure N^o 1.

Translation of a letter from the Agent at Muscat to
Major Hennell, Resident in the Persian Gulf, dated
25th Rabee ool Awwal. 29th February 1848.

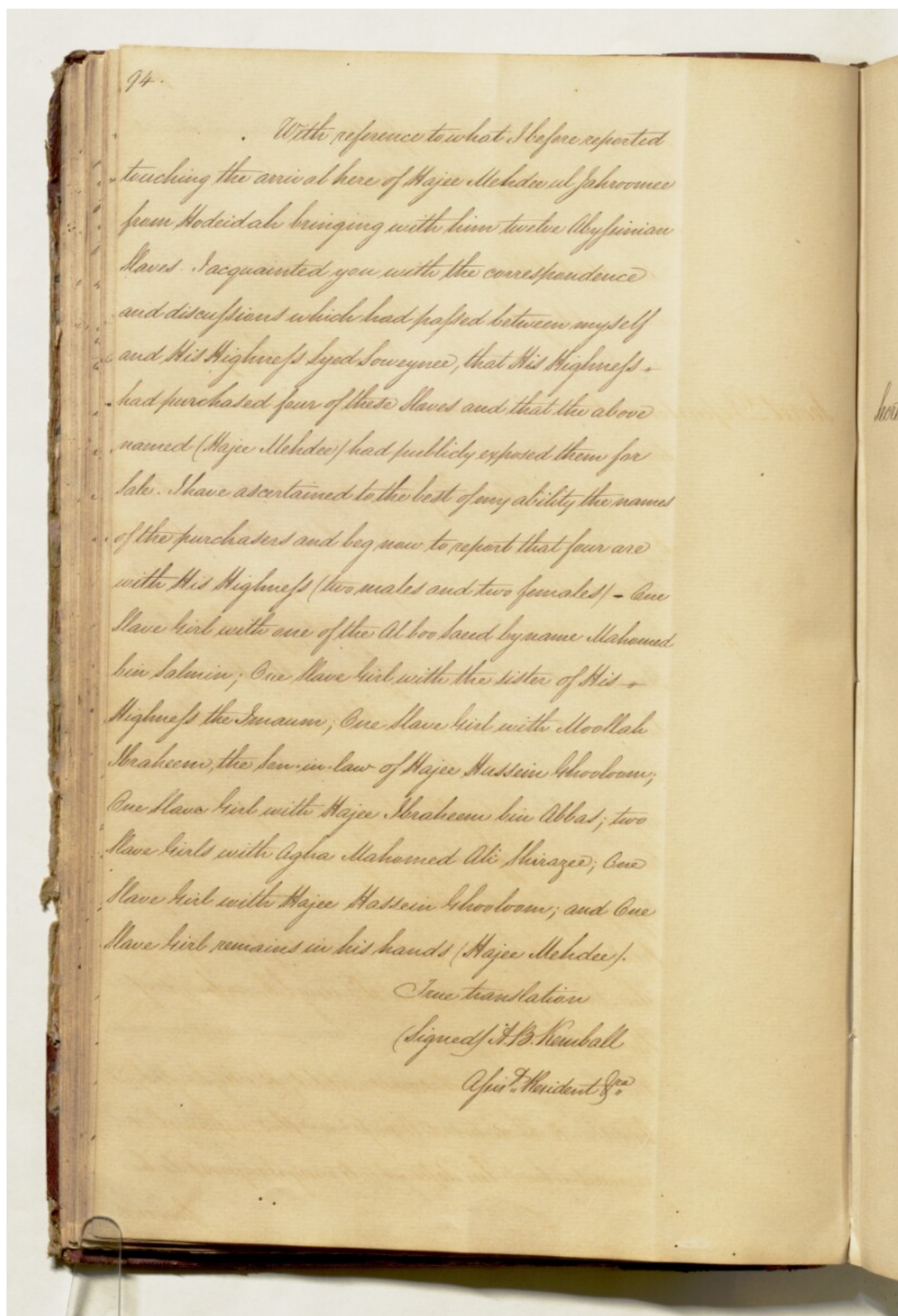
I beg to report that yesterday a boat arrived
here from Soor belonging to one Salow bin Ali Ali Hajiree

J



49 93
of that place bringing five Abyssinian female Slaves
three of them belonging to a Persian Turk native of
Azerbaijan by name Hajee Ali and the other two,
naturalized Arabs, the property of Abdul Suteff bin
Abdullah Musharree as I understand given to him at
Zanzibar by His Highness the Imam Syed Saïed, who
were embarked in a luglah belonging to an inhabitant
of Zanzibar, but as the season had lapsed at the period of
her sailing she missed her passage and put into Shaha.
From the latter place they were embarked along with
the three above mentioned in the luglah of Saïed bin
Salim al Jameybee, native of Soor, and landed all of
them at Soor. From Soor they were brought in this
boat under charge of one of the house-born Slaves (of
Abdul Suteff) called Mahomed. Up to the date of
writing I have made no representation regarding
them to the Authorities on the account that His
Highness Syed Seweynee is not at present here and
His Highness Syed Mahomed bin Salim if I address
him on any matter replies, "It is no concern of mine -
"My Brother Seweynee is not here, wait until he comes."
The Slaves have not as yet been disposed of whether
by sale or otherwise. I await whatever instructions
you may be pleased to give regarding them.

With

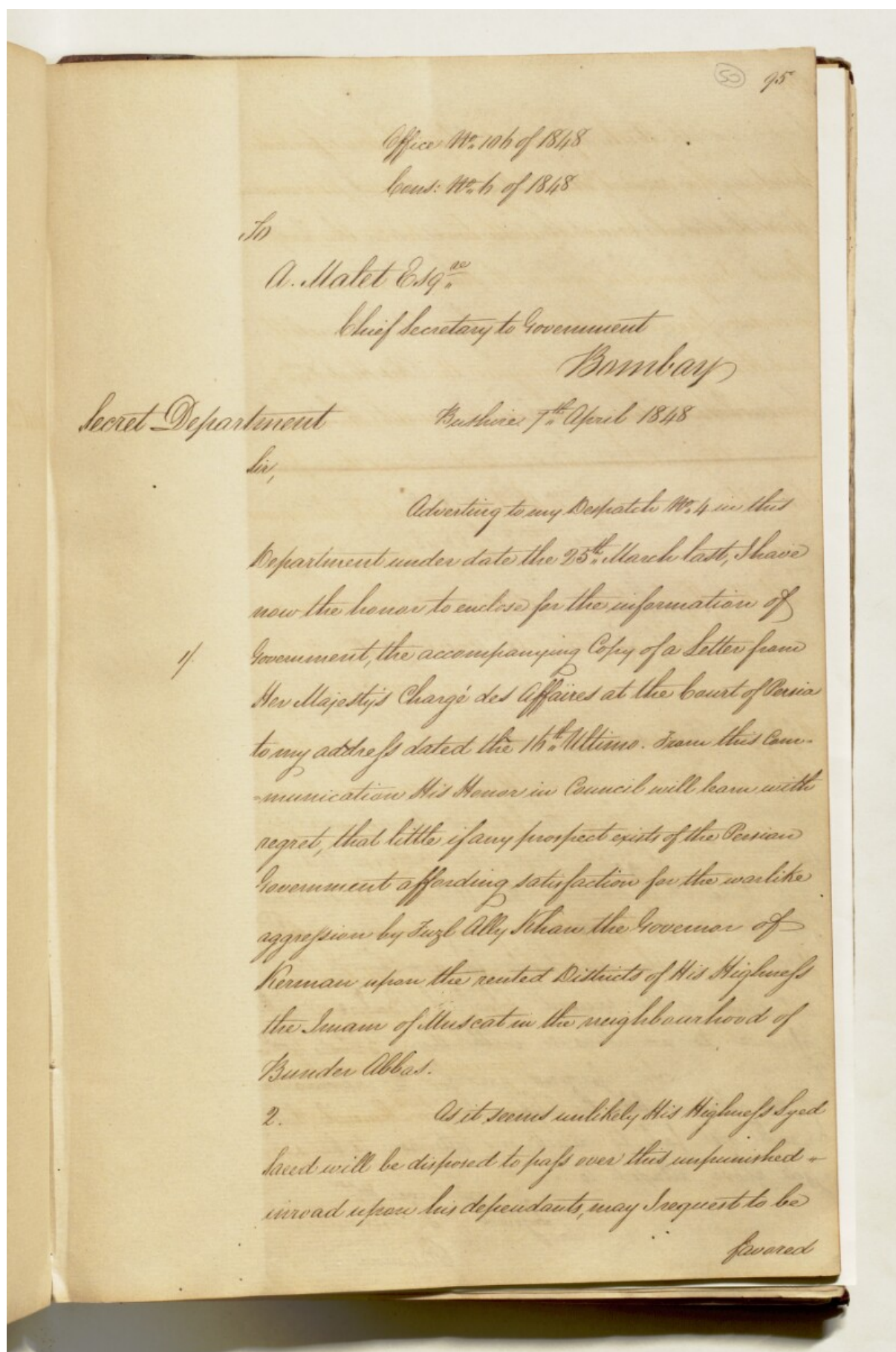


94.
With reference to what I before reported
touching the arrival here of Hajee Mehmed ul Jahromi
from Hodeidah bringing with him twelve Abyssinian
Slaves. I acquainted you with the correspondence
and discussions which had passed between myself
and His Highness's Syed Sourynee, that His Highness
had purchased four of these Slaves and that the above
named (Hajee Mehmed) had publicly exposed them for
sale. I have ascertained to the best of my ability the names
of the purchasers and beg now to report that four are
with His Highness (two males and two females) - One
Slave Girl with one of the Al Boos named by name Mahomed
bin Salamin; One Slave Girl with the sister of His
Highness the Imam; One Slave Girl with Moollah
Shahceen, the son-in-law of Hajee Hassan Shooloom;
One Slave Girl with Hajee Shahceen bin Abbas; two
Slave Girls with Agha Mahomed Ali Shiraze; One
Slave Girl with Hajee Hassan Shooloom; and One
Slave Girl remains in his hands (Hajee Mehmed).

True translation

(Signed) J. B. Kimball

Asst. Secretary





96
favored with the instructions of Government for my
guidance, in case of His Highness's contemplating measures
of retaliation against the Persian Post in this Gulf.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. Hannell

Resident &c.

For enclosure vide letter from P.D. Tennant. 16th March 1848

Office No 157 of 1848
Cons: No 7 of 1848

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Bushire 24th May 1848

Secret Department

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your Despatch No 71 on this
Department under date the 11th March, directing
attention to the advisability of my availing myself
of any favorable opportunity for ascertaining the
disposition of the present Chief of Bahrain with
reference to an alliance with the British Govt.

In assuring you for the information
of the Honorable the Governor in Council that
I will not fail to direct my attention to the sub-
ject above alluded to.

I have &c.
(Signed) S. Hannell
Resident &c.



(51) 97.

Office No 172 of 1848

Residency in the Persian Gulf
Bushire 2^d June 1848

To,
Major Rawlinson C. B.
Political Agent Turkish Arabia.
Bagdad

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
for your information the enclosed copy and
translation of a letter addressed by Mirza
Abdool Jubbar the Persian Consul at Bagdad
to a Merchant of this place on the subject of the
desire of the Persian Government to establish
its authority over the island of Bahrein by
means of the Ex. Chief Sheikh Abdoolah ben
Ahmed.

2 This communication together
with two letters, one to the address of the
Ex. Chief and the other to that of Sheikh Mahomed
ben Khaleefa the present ruler of Bahrein,
was forwarded under charge of a certain
Mukhee Hajee Muddan by a boat specially taken
up for the purpose by Aga Mahomed Jukky
the principal Persian Merchant of Bassorah.
This latter person has I understand been re-
quested by Mirza Abdool Jubbar to disburse
on his account whatever money may be required,
and has, I hear, addressed several of his corres-
pondents in Bushire, begging them to ascertain,
if possible, the precise nature of the relations
subsisting



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subsisting between the present Chiefs of Bahrein and the British Government. I hear moreover that Houssein Khan the Governor of Fars (who is now en route for Shiraz) gives out that Bahrein has been made over to him by the Shah.

Although I do not believe there is the slightest chance of any expedition being actually organized by the Persian Government against Bahrein I have thought it right you should be made aware of the intrigues carrying on by the Persian Court at Bagdad in respect to that Island.

I have &c
Signed J. S. Hennell.
President &c

Enclosure No 1.

Translation of a letter from Mirza Abdul Jubbar Persian Consul at Bagdad to a Merchant of Bushire

Although terms of intimacy have never existed, nor has a meeting ever taken place between us, yet since so much has been said and heard in your praise, I have considered it necessary to trouble you. According to what I have heard, the affairs of the territories of Bahrein are in a very disordered state and the inhabitants in much distress from unbounded tyranny and oppression. It is some time, owing to the ill will and animosity which to a certain degree existed between the two exalted States

L



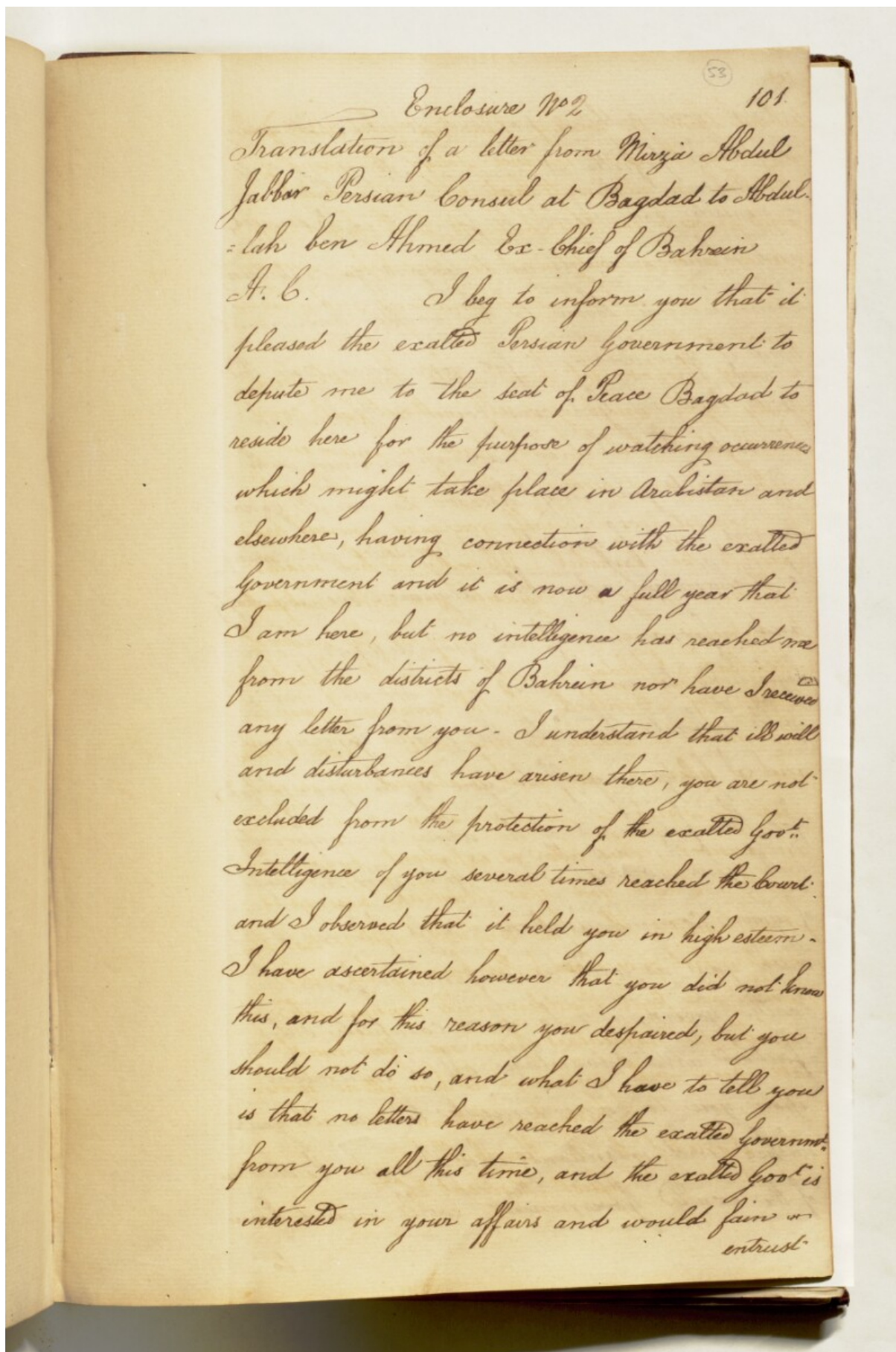
52 99.

of Persia and Turkey, that a commissioner
not having been deputed to this Quarter on
the part of H. M. the King of Persia. His
Majesty has not graciously noticed the Sheikhs
of these Countries, but now thanks be to God,
that a sincere and perfect understanding has
been restored between the two exalted States.
His Majesty will be pleased to show favor to
all his devoted servants and establish his subjects
in well being and happiness. In as much as
formerly you greatly exerted yourself in these
matters, the trouble of conducting them again
devolves upon you. I have addressed a letter
to Abdollah ben Ahmed. you must yourself
go to him and set his mind at ease in
every point. I engage that whatever designs
and objects he may entertain all shall be ac-
complished and whatever wish express or
petition make there will be every readiness
to fulfil. Should he deem it advisable let him
come to Mohumrah. Probably I too will proceed
there and whatever requisitions he may make,
will submit them to the Ministers of State.
Should he not come to Mohumrah. Let him
from there (his present residence) communicate
his designs in writing and do you come to
Bagdad. At Bagdad we will have an interview
and if it be advisable I will forward you to
court whether you will proceed in person, but if
it be not deemed advisable, the circumstances
should be fully explained to me and I will
submit.



150
submit them in writing from him. In short you
must in the first instance satisfy the mind of
Abdullah in all points that he may undertake
and proceed in this business with perfect confi-
-dence and sincerity and in sure hope - Secondly
whatever requisitions and conditions and whatever
forces or guns or measures of importance
he may propose let him write them all, and
thirdly you must yourself without fail come
to Bagdad that I may have an interview
with you and become perfectly acquainted with
the circumstances. Probably you may yourself pro-
-ceed to the Capital. Assuredly in this matter
whatever may be requisite you will not fail
to perform and whatever may be the wishes of
Abdullah I pledge myself they shall be put on
train: If Abdullah should come in person to
Mohammah it would be very well. I have written
also a letter to Ali and Mohamed which you
must forward to its destination and obtain
an answer. This letter is expedient (by way of a
blind). Please God after Abdullahs business is
set on train. These ~~the English~~ will be trampled
under foot (be passed) The bearer of this letter
Mukhee bin Ayee Mudden will communicate
verbally the particulars from me. You must
take him with you and let him attend you.

True translation
/Signed/ A. B. Hemball.
Agent Resident &c





entrust you with important services; Let your
mind be perfectly at ease in all points. It
is requisite you should be forward in its services,
and whatever objects and designs you entertain,
communicate them to the exalted Government,
and if you deem it for your advantage. Put
your trust in God and come to Mohumrah
in order that I may have an interview with
you and you may discover to me all your
designs, and if you do not consider your coming
to Mohumrah advisable, acquaint me accordingly
and inform me of all your designs from
beginning to end, great and small, and I
will submit them to the exalted Government
and I pledge myself to you by the grace of God
for the fulfilment of the whole in conformity
with your wishes. Please God after the receipt
of your communication a dress of honor will
reach you as well as a firman from the
exalted Government to your complete satis-
-faction and advantage. It is incumbent
upon you to communicate to me all your
wishes and intentions, and I, under the shadow
of the exalted Government, will conduct them
to



54 103.
to their accomplishment that your mind may
be satisfied. you should indeed despatch
your letter to me with all haste trans-
mitting them to Bussoorah to the address
of Agha Mahomed Tuckee Merchant; who
will forward them to me at Bagdad)

True translation
/Signed/ A. B. Herball.
Agent Resident. 1848.

Enclosure N^o 3

Translation of a letter from Mirza Abdul
Jubbar Persian Consul at Bagdad to Ali
and Mahomed Sons of Khuleefa Bahrein. dated
1st Jumadee. orl. uowul. 6th April 1848

A.B. It is a very long time that
communications have not reached the exalted
Persian Government from you. you must not
suppose that it is unmindful of you and of
your country. The fact is there existed a trifling
misunderstanding between the two exalted gov^{ts}
of Persia and Turkey, this was the reason that
it did not issue its requisitions and commands
with regard to you, but now thanks be to
God



104.

God a sincere and lasting peace has obtained
between the two States and henceforth its
goodwill and favor will be extended to
you to your hearts desire. Let it be (known)
to you that it is now a full year since this
humble individual was deputed to the seat
of Peace Bagdad on the part of the exalted
Government, and I am established in this
city for the purpose of arranging the affairs
of Arabistan connected with the exalted gov:
as well as others and it is incumbent upon
me to communicate this to you, in order
to set your mind at ease. I observe that for
a considerable period no letters have been
received from you by the exalted Government
or by me, and it is desirable that you should
tender your services and transmit letters &c.
in order that you may be accepted in its
sight and whatever aims designs or objects
you may entertain explain them to us,
and we, please God, will not be negli-
gent in your behalf, for we are not un-
mindful of you, and for this reason I have
written you these particulars, which
Please



105

Please God will reach and become patent to you
It is incumbent upon you to give an early
answer? -

True translation
/Signed/ A. B. Kimball.
Resident 18th

Office N^o 377 of 1848

To,

Lieut. Colonel Farrar
Her Majesty's Charge D'affaires
at the Court of Persia

Bushire 5th June 1848.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose
for your information, the accompanying copies
and translations of letters addressed by Mirza
Abdool Jabbar the Persian Consul at Bagdad
to a Merchant of Bushire. the Ex-Chief of
Bahrein Sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed, and the
present ruler of that Island Sheik Mahomed ben
Khulafa. These communications were forwarded
to this place under charge of a certain Merchant
bin



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ben Hajee Muddun by a special boat despatched
by Aga Mahomed Tukky the principal Persian
Merchant of Bushorah

2 The object of the two first letters above
referred to, is evidently the extension of the au-
-thority of Persia over the Island of Bahrein
by means of the Ex-Chief Sheik Abdoolah ben
Ahmed - the third apparently being intended
as a blind to Sheik Mahomed. I am informed
that Aga Mahomed Tukkee has been instructed
by the Persian Consul, to disburse whatever money
may be requisite, and that he has written to se-
-veral of the Merchants of Bushire, requesting them
to furnish him with information in respect to the
exact nature of the relations subsisting between
the British Government and the present Chiefs
of Bahrein :-

3 Although I feel well assured that
no actual expedition against that Island is
likely to be organized by the Persian Government;
yet I am not without apprehension, that in
his present reduced circumstances, the Ex-Chief,
may not be unwilling to listen to any overtures
which



56 107

which hold out the most distant hope of the
repossession of Bahrein, even as a dependency
of Persia, and that under this illusive expec-
tation of aid and support from the Shah,
he may recommence aggressions upon the
trading vessels of the Island in question.
In this case we are pledged to take active
measures to suppress and punish any proceed-
ings of this nature.

I shall not fail to keep a strict
observation upon the movements of the Exchequer
and the authorities of Fars. In the event of
the very improbable circumstance of an invasion
of Bahrein being actually in contemplation by
them, it will be my duty to act according to
the instructions of the Supreme Government
conveyed in the latter part of a letter No 679
dated 12th August 1842 which formed encls-
ure No 2 in a Despatch to His Excellency
Colonel Keith from the Officiating Resident.
Mr Hemball No 434 dated 3rd October 1843.

I have &c
/signed/ S. Hennell.
Resident. &c



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For the Enclosures Vide this letter Book from
Page 98 @ 105

Office No. 178 of 1848
Cons. No. 8 of 1848

To,

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to the Government,
Bombay

Bushire 5th June 1848.

Secret Department.

Sir

Herewith I have the honor to transmit
for the information of the Honorable the Governor
in Council the accompanying copy of a letter with
enclosures dated this day addressed by me to Her
Majesty's Charge D'Affaires at the Court of Persia
relative to certain intrigues now carrying on by
the Agents of that Government, having in view, the
subjugation of the Island of Bahrein by means of
the Ex Chief Sheik Abdollah ben Ahmed.

I have &c^a

/ Signed / S. Hornell.

Resident &c^a

For the Enclosure Vide the preceding letters



(57)

109.

Office No. 180 of 1848

Cons. No. 9 of 1848

To,

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to the Government.

Bombay

Bushire 6th June 1848

Secret Department

Sir,

Adverting to my letter to your
address No. 6 in this Department under date the 7th
April last I now do myself the honor to transmit
for the information of the Honorable the Governor
in Council the accompanying copy of a Despatch
of this day's date addressed by me to Her Majesty's
Charge D'Affaires at the Court of Tehran on the
subject of the aggressive proceedings of the Persian
Authorities against Bunderabass and its vicinity.

I have &c

/Signed/ J. S. Kennell.

Resident &c

For the Enclosure Vide Office No. 179 of 1848 in
the Ordinary letter Book for this year.



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Office No. 197 of 1848

Cons. No. 10 of 1848

To,

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to the Government,

Bombay -

Bushire 22nd June 1848

Secret Department

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 134 in this Department under date the 28th April last, transmitting copy of a letter from the Honorable the Secret Committee, forwarding transcript of a communication from the Office of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, with a view to effect being given to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, that endeavours should be made to obtain from Hadjee Shumakhi Ali Saleh and others, who have not at the present time entered into Agreements for the suppression of the Slave Trade an acquiescence in measures for this purpose -

2.

Hadjee Shumakhi being a Chief on the Abyssian Coast, comes I believe within the

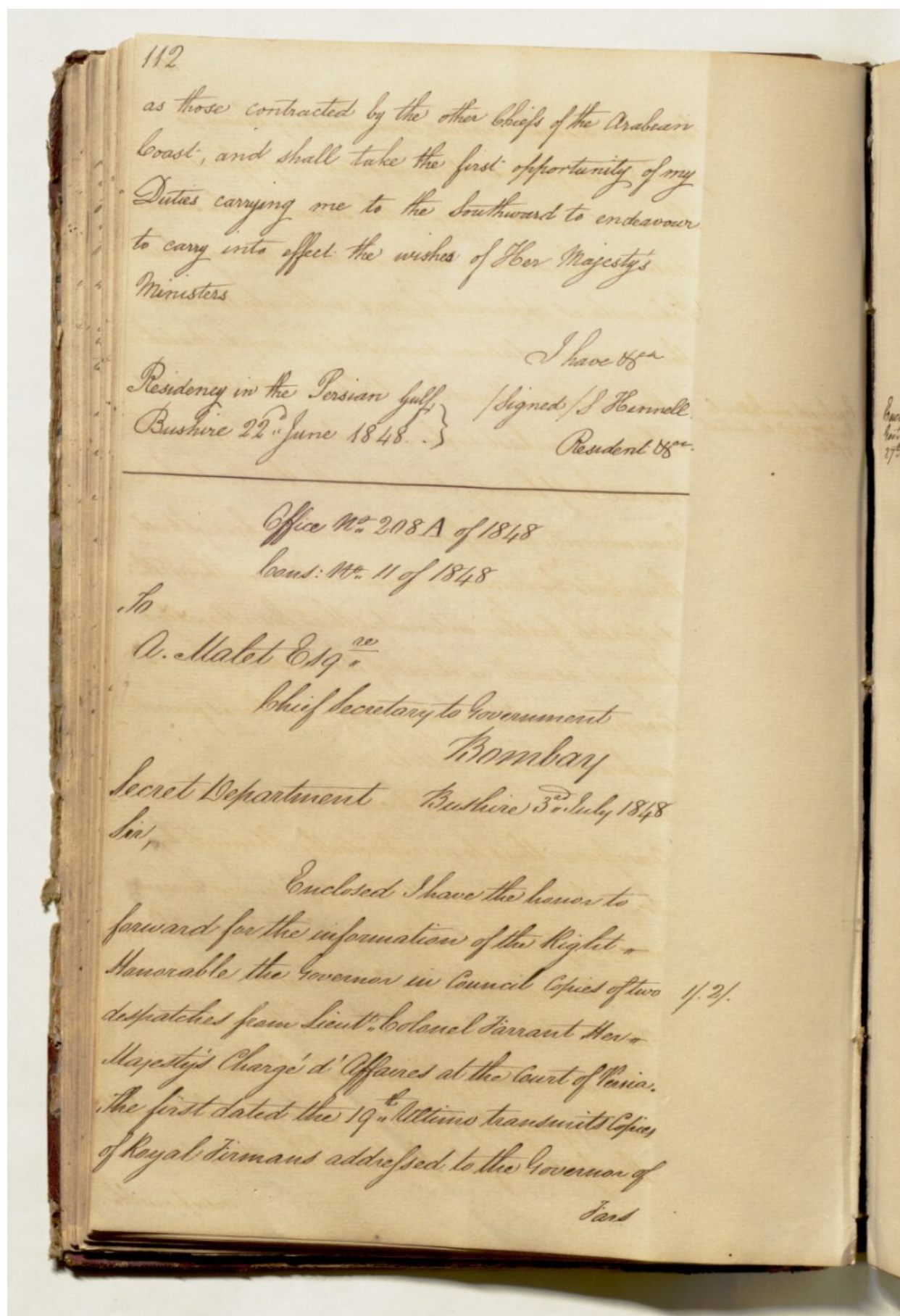


the limit of the political control of the Resident at
Iden, who I presume, will take the necessary steps
for carrying into effect the objects of Her Majesty's
Government in respect to that personage.

3 Of the Maritime Arabian Chiefs
occupying the Coast between Ras-el-Hud and
Howat, the only one, who has not entered into
any Engagement for the suppression of the Slave
Trade is Syed Humood bin Azan a near
kinsman of H. H. the Imam of Muscat, whose
supremacy he formerly acknowledged. Of late years
however he has become sufficiently powerful to
establish himself as an independent Chief, and has
been tacitly acknowledged as such both by His
Highness and the British Government.

4th The Trade of Sohar is entirely con-
fined to mere coasting Voyages as the place
possesses no Vessels of a size to cross the Ocean or
proceed to the African Coast, consequently no
Traffic in Slaves is carried on by the Inhabitants
I therefore do not anticipate any objections on the
part of Syed Humood bin Azan to enter into
the same Engagements with the British Government

as





Enclosed in letter to
Her Majesty's Minister at Tehran
No. 119 P. D. dated
27th Nov.

59 113
Persia, and Persian Arabia, commanding them to
prohibit in future the importation of African
Slaves into Persia by Sea. The second of the same
date, as the above Communication, conveys Lord
Palmerston's approval of, and authority to make
the recommendation suggested in my despatch
to Her Majesty's Minister at Tehran No. 492 dated
26th November last to the several Arab Chiefs in the
Persian Gulf having Treaties with the British
Government, to confiscate all Slaves brought into
their Ports by Foreign Vessels. At the same time this
despatch further intimates that Her Majesty's
Sailors as well as those of the East India
Company will in future seize all Slaves found
on board Persian Vessels.

2. I need hardly remark that the
concession thus so unexpectedly obtained by
Lieut. Colonel Renant from the Persian Govern-
ment, of the prohibition of the import of Slaves
into Persian Ports, is of great value and import-
ance. It would have been better had it con-
tained authority for our Vessels of War to assist
in carrying its provisions into effect, but probably
the objections of the Shah and his Minister were
insuperable.



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insuperable. With reference however to the Orders to be issued to Her Majesty's and the Honorable Company's Ships regarding the seizure of such Slaves as may be found on board Persian Vessels the omission is of the less consequence.

3. I shall take an early opportunity of addressing His Excellency Houssein Khan the Governor of Basra (who has now arrived within a few stages of Shiraz) upon the subject of the Royal Firman, and request him to lose no time in transmitting Orders founded upon them to the Chiefs of the several Ports on the Persian Coast - lying between Bushire and Lingah. Considering however the distance of these Ports from Shiraz, the difficulties of the road and the delay likely to occur in forwarding the documents by land, I shall request His Excellency to furnish me with duplicates to enable me to despatch them to their several destinations by Sea.

4. The letter authorized by Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires to the Chiefs of the Arabian Coast recommending them to seize as Contraband all Slaves imported into their Territories by Foreign Vessels will be forwarded by the first opportunity



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opportunity afforded by one of the Vessels of War
visiting the Arabian Coast. This Communication
and the knowledge that the Persian Government
has prohibited the importation of Slaves into its
Ports by Sea, will no doubt produce a good effect.

5. No instructions have as yet been
received by the Squadron in the Gulf relative to
the seizure of Slaves from Persian Vessels, and as the
Monsoon will preclude the transmission of
despatches to this quarter for some months this
measure cannot at present be carried into effect,
unless in the mean while Her Majesty's Minister
at the Court of Persia should conceive himself authorized
under the circumstance to give the necessary
directions.

6. However satisfactory may be the
termination of the several negotiations lately
undertaken to induce all the Powers of this Gulf
whether Arabian, Persian or Turkish, to consent
to the prohibition of the traffic in Slaves by Sea
it must not be overlooked, that upon the efficiency
of the steps adopted by us in order to carry into effect
the concessions granted by those Powers, depend
in a great degree whether the object sought for
by



116

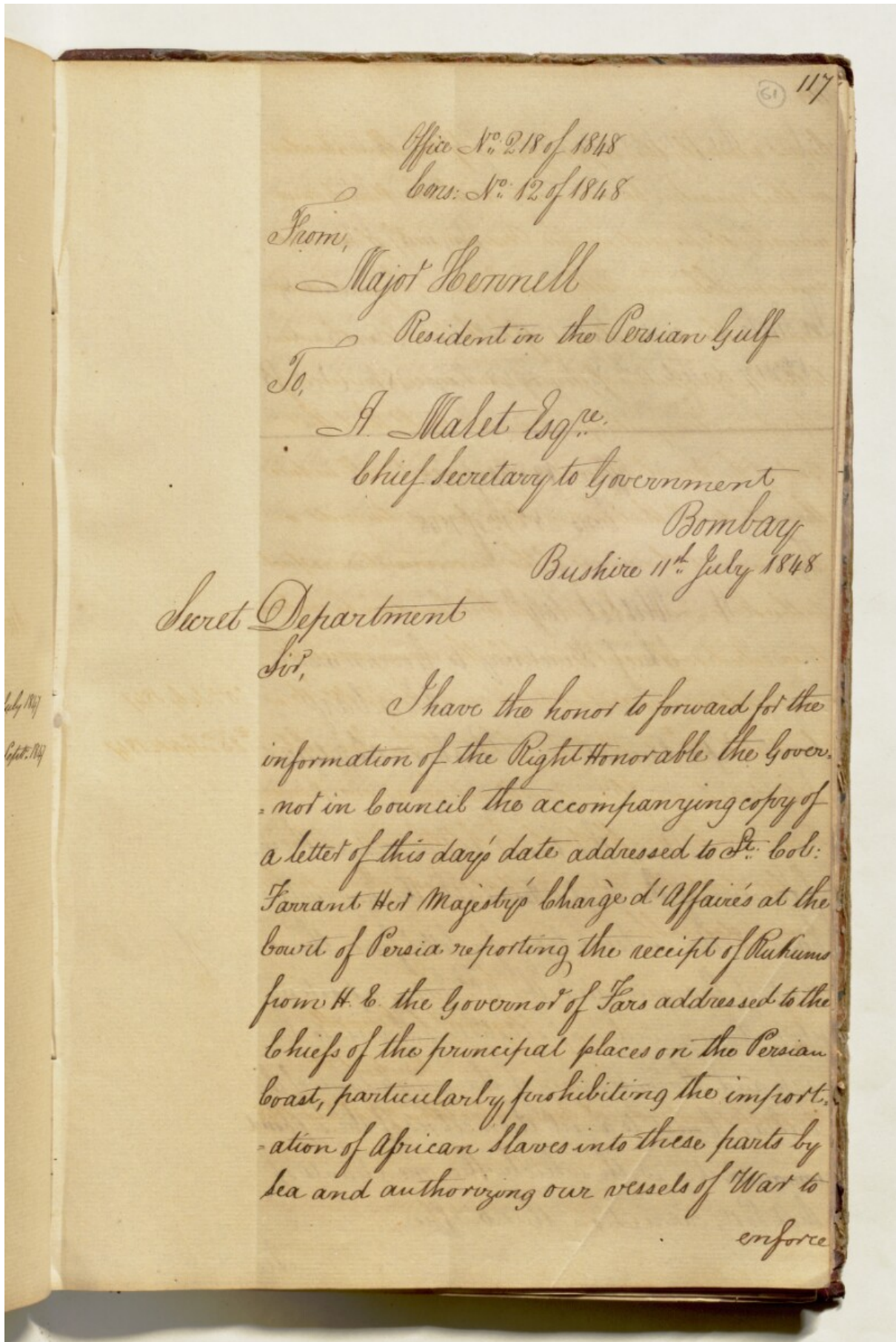
by us namely the suppression of the Slave Trade
in this quarter be attained. With the Naval Force
usually stationed in the Persian Gulf, of one Sloop
and one Schooner little can be done, beyond main-
taining the surveillance of both Coasts, with a view
to the suppression of piracy and maintenance of
Maritime tranquillity. I cannot doubt that the
zeal of the Naval Officers in Command will induce
them to do all that lies in their power towards
carrying out the views of the Government in respect
to the Slave Trade, but unless the Squadron be reinforced,
to an extent sufficient to enable the arrangements
proposed in my despatches to your address No¹⁶ +
No⁹⁸ P.D. Dep^t of 1847 to be brought
into operation I fear it will not be in our power
to give such an effectual check to the importation
of Slaves into the Persian Gulf as might otherwise be
deemed desirable.

I have &c.
(Signed) J. Hennell
Resident &c.

For enclosures vide Ad. Tennants two letters of 19th June 1848

* 3rd July 1847

* 23rd Sept. 1847





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enforce the proper execution of these orders

I have &c.

Signed/ S. Hennell

Resident &c.

For Enclosure vide Letter to A. Col. Tarrant
N^o 217 dated 11th July 1848 Page 280 A.L.B.

Office N^o 230 of 1848

Cons: N^o 13 of 1848

To.

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay

Secret Department Peshawar 18th July 1848
Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the in-
formation of the Right Honorable the Governor in
Council, the enclosed copy of a letter from the A-
gent at Shargah dated the 3rd June reporting
upon the renewed importation of slaves into Lin-
-gah and the intention of the inhabitants of the
Arabian coast to avail themselves of the supposed
immunity with which the merchants of
that Port, carried on this traffic

Y^{rs}



2. It is to be hoped that the promul-
gation of the Firman and orders issued by the
Persian Authorities prohibiting the importation
of Slaves into the Ports of that country by sea
referred to in my despatch to your address No.
11 in this Department dated the 3rd Instant
may in some measure check the Slave Trade
on the coast of Fars, but its effectual stoppage
must depend upon the efficiency of the mea-
sures taken by the British Government

I have &c.

/ Signed / S. Hennell

Resident &c.

Enclosure 1.

Translated Substance of a letter from Moollah
Hussien Agent at Shargah to Major Hennell Resi-
dent in the Persian Gulf dated 30th Jemadie or
Akhit ~ 3rd June.

At the present time all the vessels
trading with India, Africa, Yemen & Berberah
are returning to their several Ports and those
belonging to Basorah, Howeit, Bushire, Bahrein
touch on their way at Singah for traffick and
business and to pick up intelligence. I before
reported



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reported and also personally mentioned to you the
proceedings of the people of Lingah in the matter
of Slaves and now I beg to state with reference
thereto that unless a prohibition is issued with re-
gard to them by the British Government forbid-
ding the traffic and transport of Slaves it is quite
certain the trade will not be checked in the
slightest degree. At the season of the vessels proceed-
ing on their voyages to the coasts of Africa I
heard that Isai ben Shuluf Somaitu sailed
in his Butel from Lingah to Zanzibar and
embarked therein 60 Slaves and on his return
landed some of them at Jissa in Muscat and
the rest at Lingah. On arrival at Lingah
The owner and crew gave out "that they had
had no intention of embarking Slaves at Zan-
zibar but that the Shirazis who had accompa-
nied the Princess to Zanzibar for His Highness the
Imam ^{told} The Lingah people on board the Boo-
Somait Butel to embark slaves there being no
prohibition by the British Government affecting
them as they were subjects of the Shah and none
of the officers of the British Government would
offer them obstruction "

Again.



(63) 121

Again I beg to inform you that the buglah of Maho-
med ben Ali Boo thelybee the secretary of Sheikh
Sultan some time since left Rusul Khyma for
Zanzibar and I understand Sheikh Sultan and
his sons Ibrahim and Abdullah sent letters on her
by the hands of Syf ben Saleh the son in law of
Sheikh Sultan and the Nakhoda Sultan ibn
Daryj to His Highness Syed Saied begging His Highness
to transmit to them the usual annual presents
and I hear His Highness sent the same including
a brass gun for Sheikh Sultan to the care of Sheikh
Syf ben Nubhan as well as the customary presents
to the other chiefs according to their degree. The
said Syf ben Saleh purchased 5 slaves at Zanz-
ibar and having remained behind from the
buglah Mahomed ben Ali embarked in the Boo
Somait butel and brought them with him
to Songah where he landed them and proceeded
himself to Rusul Khyma. I heard also that the
Nakhoda of Mahomed ben Ali's Buglah brought
up a female slave and landed her at a village
on the Batinah coast. This year too two vessels
belonging to Shargah proceeded to Berberah the
buglah of the sons of Aved and the buglah of
the



122

the sons of Bin Atik also two vessels belonging to
Singah the buglah of Salim ben Ali and the
Buglah of Isom ben Mahomed Hussein ul Howlee
(Mahomed Khamees having a share therein) The
first of these has this day returned to Shingah I
do not observe any slaves on board - the 2nd has
proceeded to Singah I hear the latter expected
from Berberah about 30 Abyssinian female slaves
of whom she landed 25 at Sissa and brought on
the remainder to Singah and the former embark-
ed from Berberah 11 Abyssinian female slaves and
landed them all by night clandestinely at Singah.
I have learnt on good authority that the Shav-
gah people purchased slave girls at Berberah and
secretly embarked them on board the Singah
vessels and if this intelligence be confirmed I
will hereafter communicate the details to you. I
have heard too that the people of Soot who this
year proceeded to Berberah secretly embarked
a number of slaves from that port and in like
manner that a Soot buglah which went to the
African coast secretly embarked slaves and con-
veyed them to Soot.
Intelligence has reached that His Highness Syed
Said



123
Saeed had meditated a trip this year to Muscat
but that disturbances broke out among the peo-
ple of Seivee and a portion of them revolted...
which induced His Highness to abandon his in-
tention. ~ With regard to Maritime Affairs Perfect
tranquility reigns at sea and all the people
are distributed abroad practising their vocation
in the Pearl Banks and prosecuting their tra-
-ding voyages. Up to the present date no irre-
-gularity has been committed

True Translated Substance
Signed/ A B Kimball
Assist^t. Resident of Co.

Office No 267 of 1848
Cons. No 14 of 1848

To,

A Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 25th August 1848

Sir,

Adverting to my despatch to your
address No 8 in this Department dated the 6th June last
I have herewith the honor to enclose for the infor-
-mation



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ination of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,
the accompanying copy of a letter from Major Rawlin-
son the Political Agent at Bagdad under date the 26th
Ultimo in reply to my communication to him on the
subject of the correspondence attempted to be opened by
the Persian Consul at Bagdad with the Ex-Chief of
Bahrein Sheikh Abdullah ben Ahmed

2 Although Major Rawlinson is probably cor-
rect in the opinion he has expressed regarding the ab-
sence of any intention on the part of Hajee Meerza
Jabber to annoy the British Government, I cannot
coincide in the views he takes in respect to the
object contemplated by that person in commencing
this correspondence. It appears to me considering the
whole tenor of the Meerza's letters, tolerably certain,
that he was acting under specific instructions from
his own Court. Sheikh Abdullah has not been at Bushire
for some years, and when there he by no means
experienced any want of attention on the
part of the local authorities

3 As I have before stated, I do not
believe that the Persian Government entertains
the slightest idea of sending any expedition against
Bahrein. It may be that the unfounded report
has



125
65
has reached Schwan of the Lachief being in possession
of a very large sum of money and the vague hope of
being able to extort some portion of the supposed
Treasure has perhaps led to the steps taken by
Hajee Mirza Jabber in this affair

I have &c.
/Signed/ S. Hemmell
Resident &c.

For Enclosure - Vide Major Rawlinson's letter No. 15
Dated 26th July 1848

Office No. 306 of 1848
Cons. No. 15 of 1848

To,

A. Malet Esq.^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

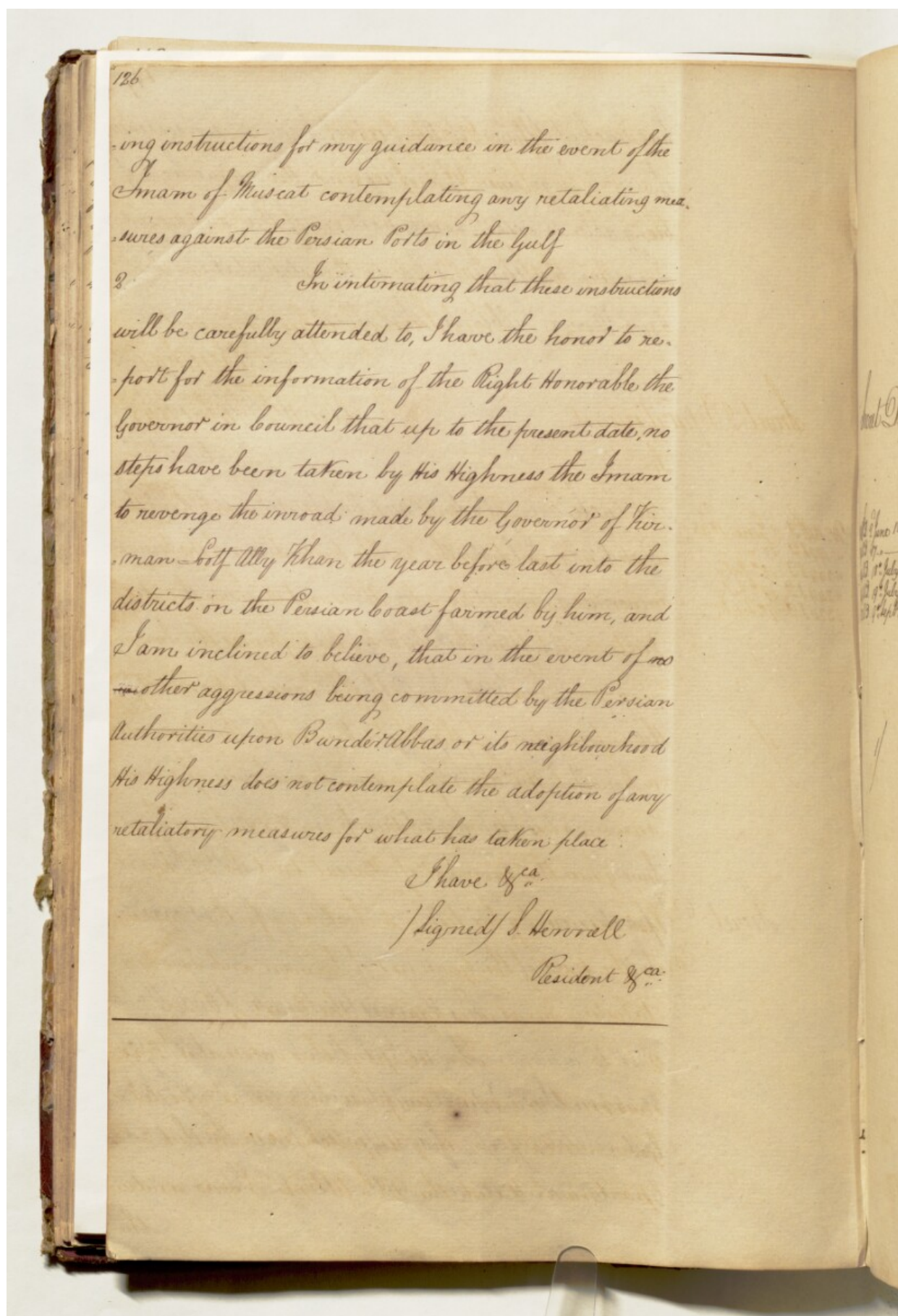
Secret Department

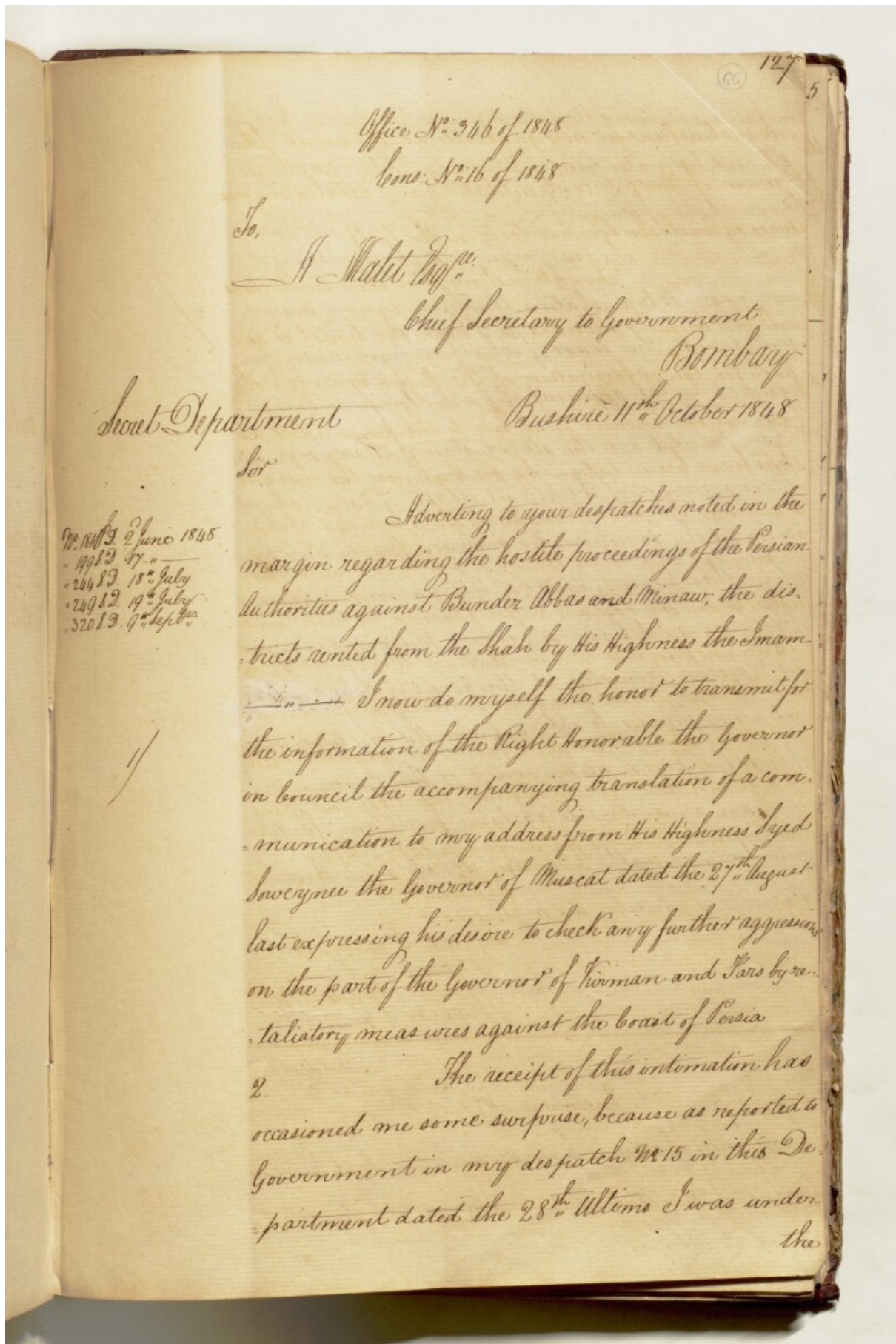
Sir,

Bushire 28th September 1848.

By the overland route I had the ho.
- not to receive on the 25th Instant your despatch
No. 249 in this Department under date the 19th July
last enclosing copy of a despatch from the Supreme
Government No. 1613 dated the 1st Idem convey-

-ing







the full impression that His Highness the Imam had sus-
pended his intentions of acting hostilely against the
Persian Ports of this Gulf

In my reply to His Highness Syed
Loweynee (a translation of which is now trans- 2/
mitted and the tenor of which I trust may be
honored by the approval of His Lordship in Council)
I have pointed out the altered state of affairs in Persia
in consequence of the recent death of the Shah as
being likely to relieve His Highness the Imam from
all further annoyances of the nature complained
of by him and have moreover promised to engage
Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Tehran to ex-
ert his influence to obtain from the new Government
of Persia a peremptory order to the Governor of
Kerman and Fars to abstain from any further
interference with Bander Abbas and the other
districts rented by His Highness -

I have &c.
Signed J. Hennell

Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 1

Translation of a letter from His Highness Syed Loweynee
Governor of Muscat dated 27th Ramezan 27th August re-
ceived 5th October

Let



129 5

A. C. Let it not be concealed from you
with reference to the affairs of the Persians. The Sahet
is Akhtyar and Sayf Ally Khan Governor of Kerman, in-
deed. Doubtless it is not unknown to you they are
constantly committing aggressions upon the districts
of Bunder Abbas and Minaw and their dependencies
without just cause.

Whatever revenue is assessed on these territories the Go-
-vernment Syf ben Rubhan pays it to them punctually
and in full. However every year they raise dis-
-turbances and Syf ben Rubhan always keeps them
off with sums over and above the revenue and now
I see these proceedings are aggravated. I have deemed
it necessary to inform you should you consider it
advisable, and the Exalted Government will per-
-mit me (to act) against the Persian territories such
as the Ports on the Sea Coast Bushire &c. that if
they venture to molest Bunder Abbas and Minaw
I will proceed against these Ports in order to secure
immunity to those districts from them (the aggressing)
I beg to solicit a decided answer

True Translation
/signed/ A. B. Turnbull
Assistant Resident &c.
Enclosure M.



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30
Inclosure N^o 2

Translation of a letter from Major Kennell Resident in the
Persian Gulf to His Highness Syed Soweryne Governor of
Muscat dated 11th October 1848

Alb In a fortunate time and auspicious
hour I had the honor to receive Your Highness's letter
dated the 27th August and understood its contents,
particularly that part of it which referred to the ag-
gressions committed by the Governors of Korman upon
the districts of Bander Abbas and Minaw, and your
wish to check their aggressions by retaliating upon
the coasts of Persia.

The state of affairs having been wholly
changed in Persia, since the date of Your Highness's letter
in consequence of the death of Mahomed Shah on the
5th Shawal and the retirement of His Excellency Haje
Mirza Aghasce from the office of Prime Minister, there
is every reason to believe that no further annoyances
will be experienced from Shirk Syf from either the
Sahib-i-Mhtaryar or Koryally Khan. At all events
under present circumstances Your Highness will
doubtless see the expediency of directing the Gover-
nor of Bander Abbas to confine himself to defensive
measures. I shall take an early opportunity of
again



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again drawing the attention of Her Majesty's Minister at
Tehran to the aggressive proceedings of Sheikh Ally Khan
and I entertain great hopes that the exertions of his
influence with the new Government of Persia
presumptory orders may be issued to the Governors
of Kerman and Fars, to abstain from any further
interference with the districts farmed by His
Highness the Imam

True Translation
Signed J. Hennell
Resident &c.

Office No 364 of 1848

Cons No 17 of 1848

To,

A. Malet Esq^{re}

Chief Secretary to Government

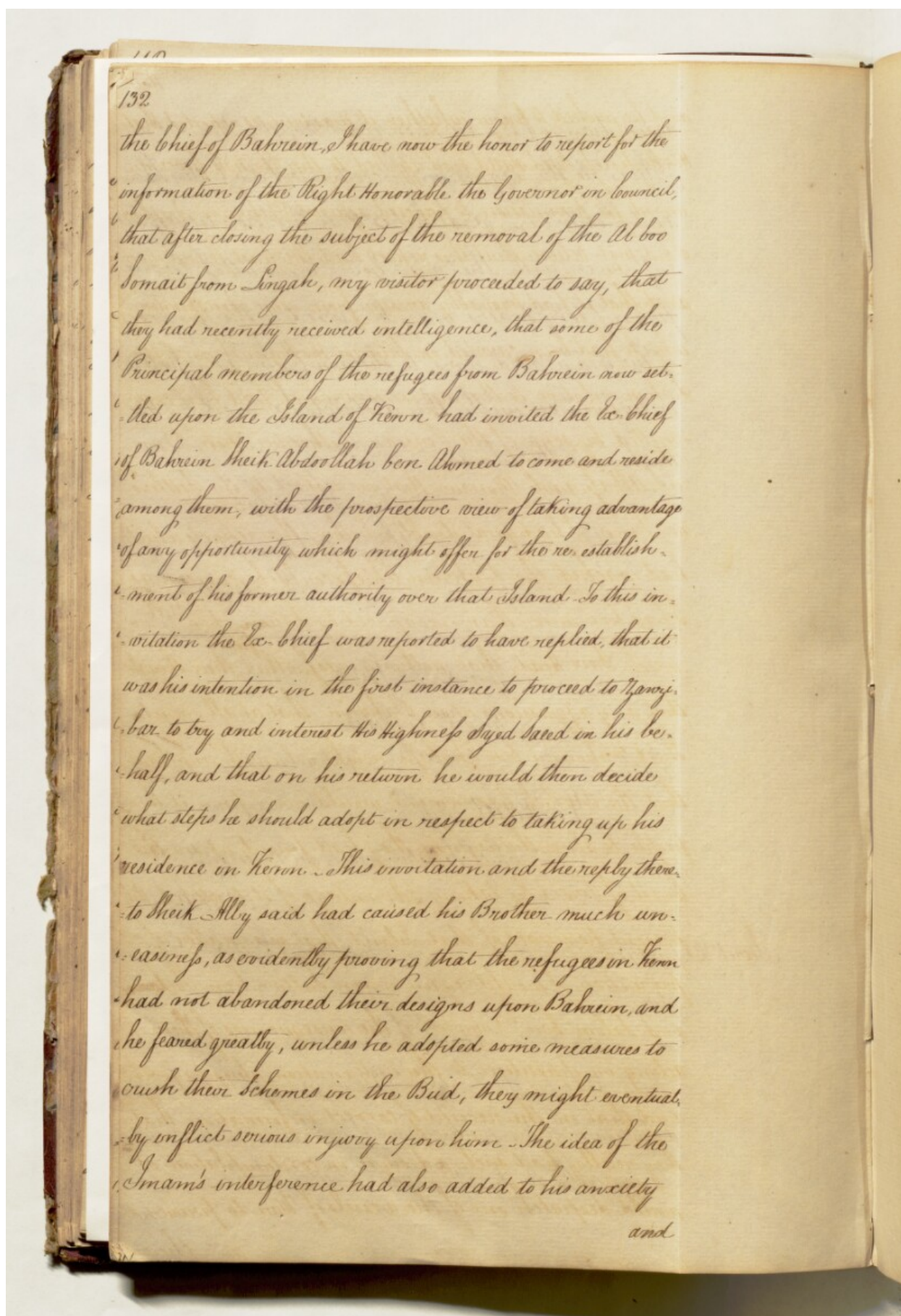
Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 27th October 1848

Sir,

Adverting to my Dispatch to your ad-
dress No 87 in the Political Department of this day's
date detailing the particulars of an interview held yes-
terday with Sheikh Ally ben Khudlefa the Brother of
the



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the chief of Bahrein, I have now the honor to report for the
information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,
that after closing the subject of the removal of the Al Boo
Somaith from Lingah, my visitor proceeded to say, that
they had recently received intelligence, that some of the
Principal members of the refugees from Bahrein now set-
tled upon the Island of Kowloon had invited the Ex-chiefs
of Bahrein Sheikh Abdoolah ben Ahmed to come and reside
among them, with the prospective view of taking advantage
of any opportunity which might offer for the re-establish-
ment of his former authority over that Island. To this in-
vitation the Ex-chiefs was reported to have replied, that it
was his intention in the first instance to proceed to Hong-
kong to try and interest His Highness's Highness in his be-
half, and that on his return he would then decide
what steps he should adopt in respect to taking up his
residence in Kowloon. This invitation and the reply there-
to Sheikh Ally said had caused his Brother much un-
easiness, as evidently proving that the refugees in Kowloon
had not abandoned their designs upon Bahrein, and
he feared greatly, unless he adopted some measures to
crush their schemes in the Bud, they might eventual-
ly inflict serious injury upon him. The idea of the
Imam's interference had also added to his anxiety
and



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and he wished to know whether it was true as reported that
His Highness Syed Saïd had applied to the British Govern-
ment for permission to proceed against Bahrein. I replied,
I did not believe that this report had the least foundation,
and that it had probably arisen from some correspondence
which had been carried on between His Highness and the
Sirhan relative to the aggressions which had been com-
mitted by some of the Persian Authorities upon Buss-
der Abbass and Minaw: that in respect to the Settlers
in Henn I had great doubt whether the reports which
had reached the Bahrein Chiefs could be correct as
I had been more than once assured by Salim ben Dur-
weish their Head, that nothing was further ^{from} their thought
that any aggressions upon Bahrein: that at all events
Sheik Mahomed ben Khuleifa might rely with confidence
that the British Government would never permit these
people to abuse the asylum they had found upon the
coast of Persia by taking advantage of it to attack the
present possessors of that Island: that as a matter of
precaution I would again warn Sultan ben Salim
and Salim ben Durweish of the consequences of their
acting in opposition to the intimation already given
and that on the receipt of correct information that
they really had such a design in contemplation I
would despatch one of the vessels of War to prevent
their



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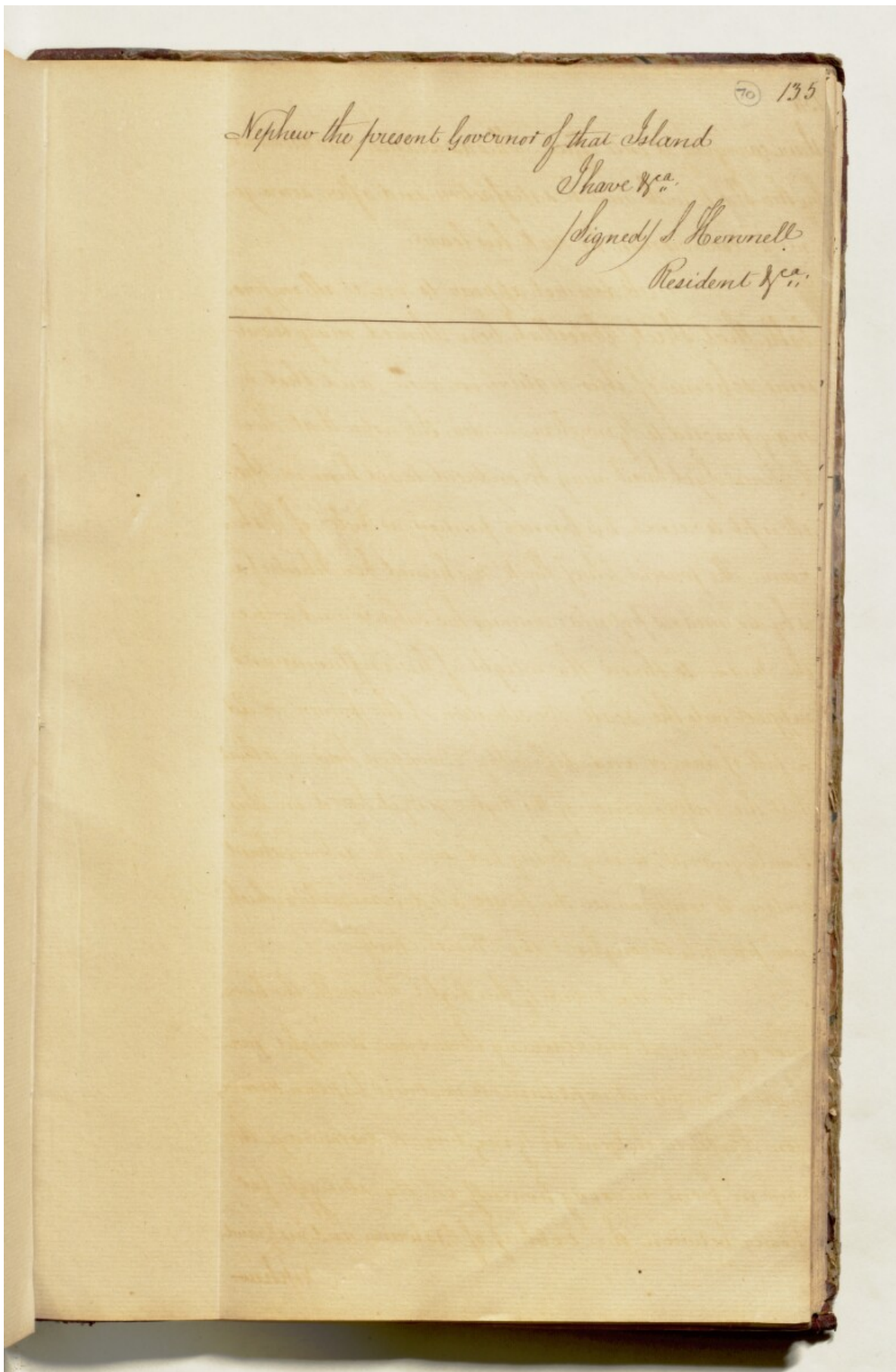
their carrying it into effect. This assurance was received by the Sheikh with much satisfaction and after some general conversation he took his leave.

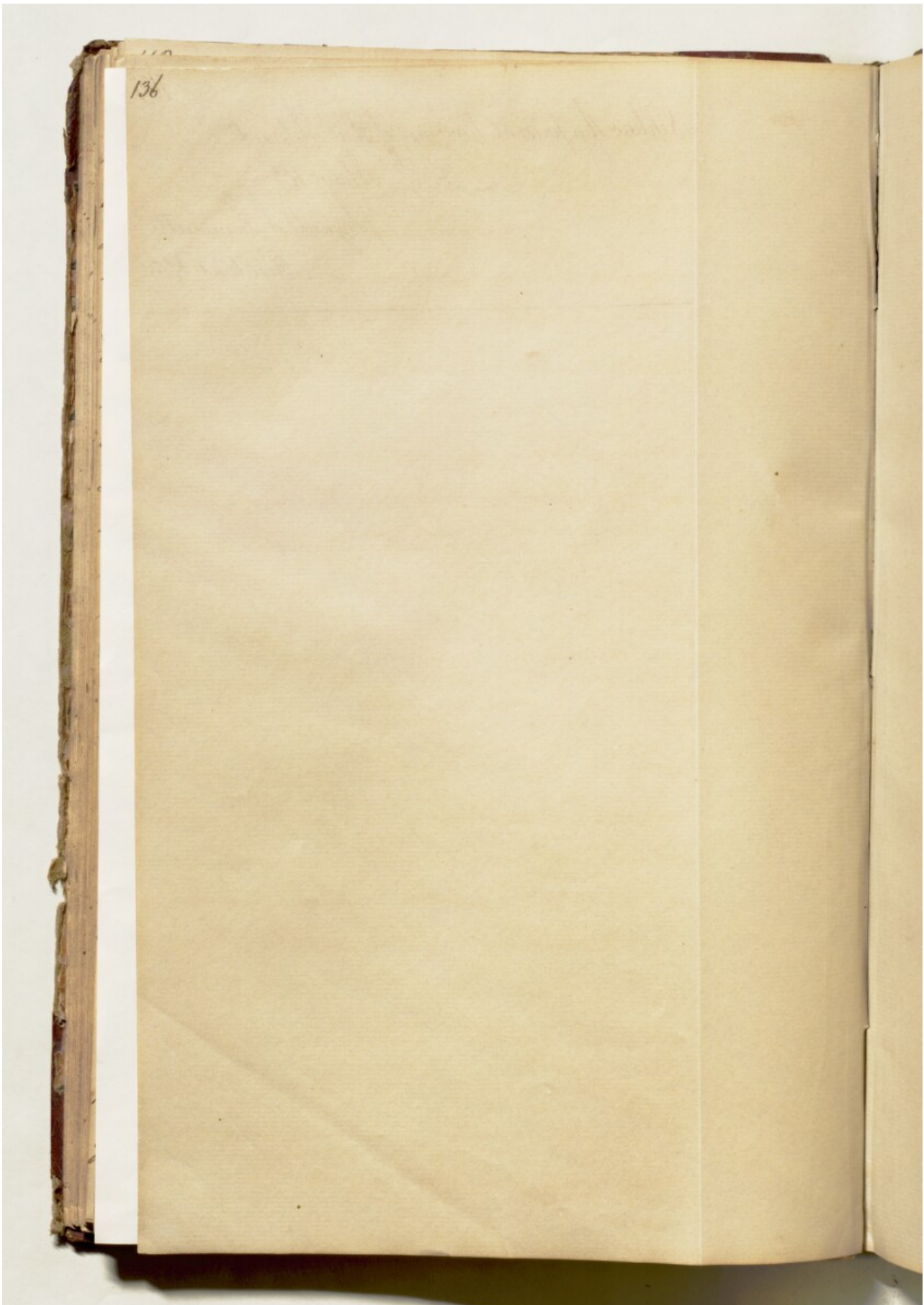
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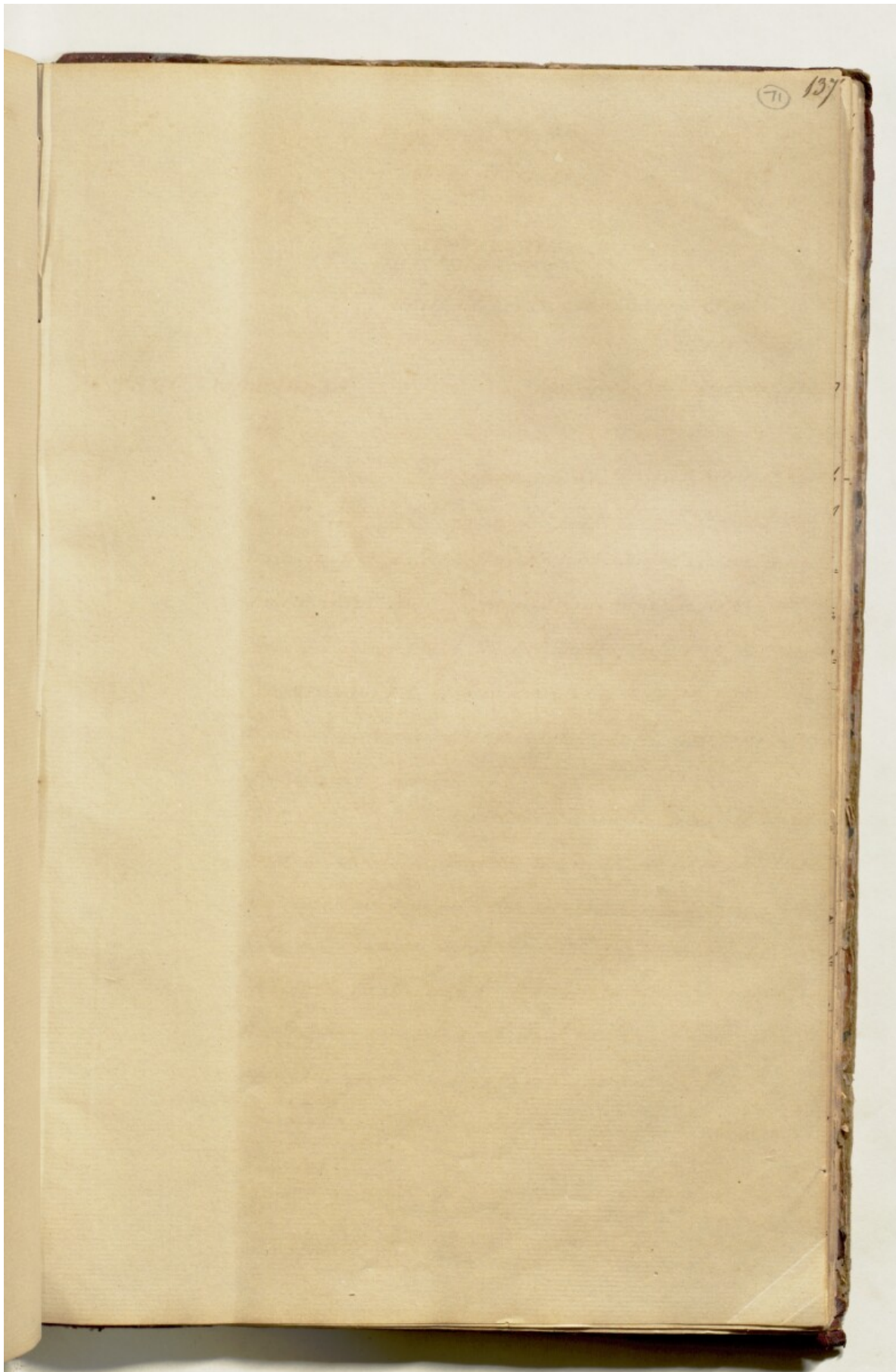
It does not appear to me at all improbable that Sheikh Abdollah ben Ahmed may have some scheme of this nature in view, and that he may proceed to Zanzibar under the hope that His Highness Syed Saïd may be induced to aid him in the attempt to recover his former position as Ruler of Bahrein. The present chief, Sheikh Mahomed ben Khulafa is by no means popular among his subjects and were the Imam to throw the weight of his influence and support into the scale the situation of the former would be full of danger and difficulty. I venture however to think that the interference of His Highness Syed Saïd in this family quarrel, is any thing but desirable, as being almost certain to compromise the peace and tranquillity which now prevails throughout the Persian Gulf.

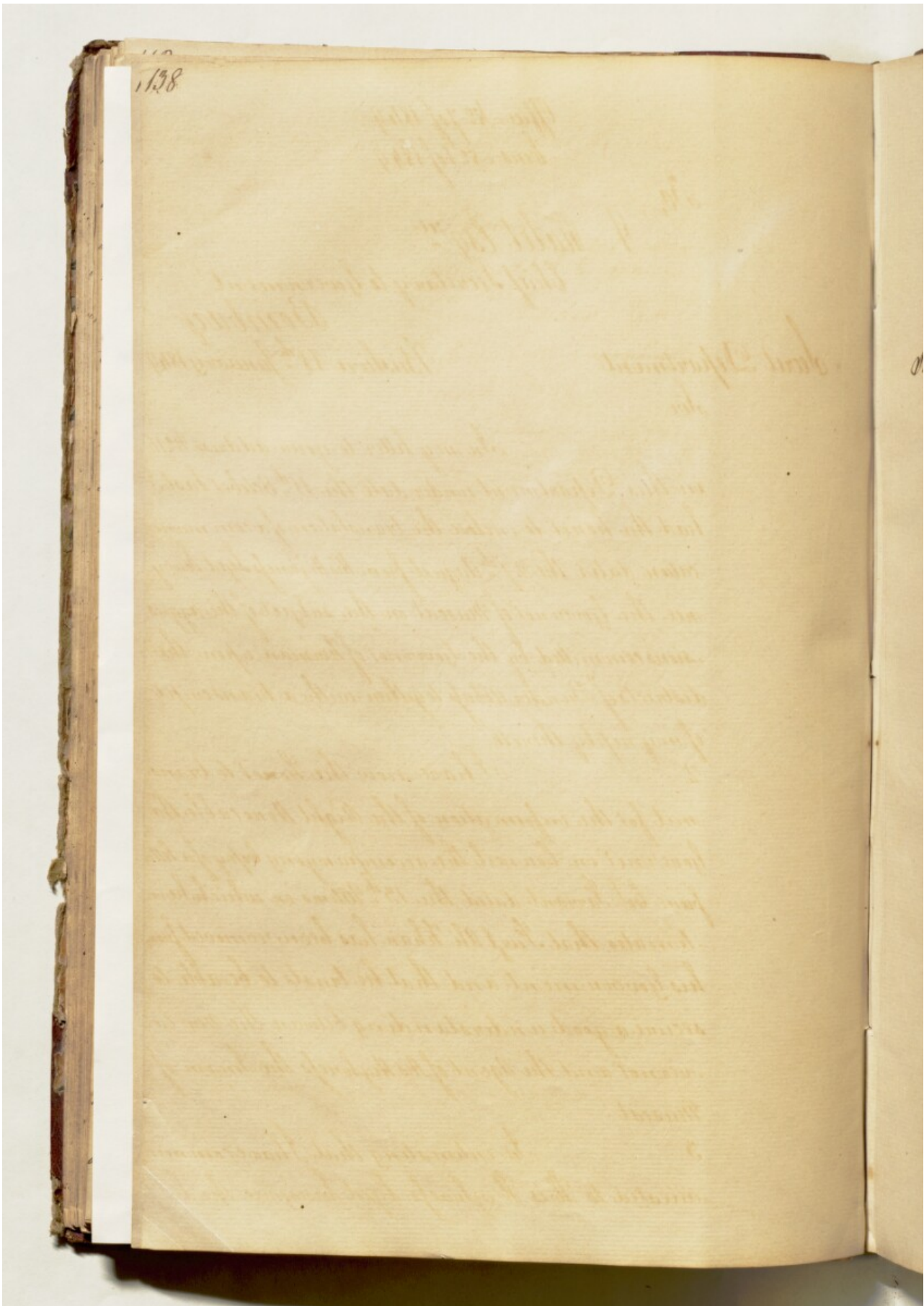
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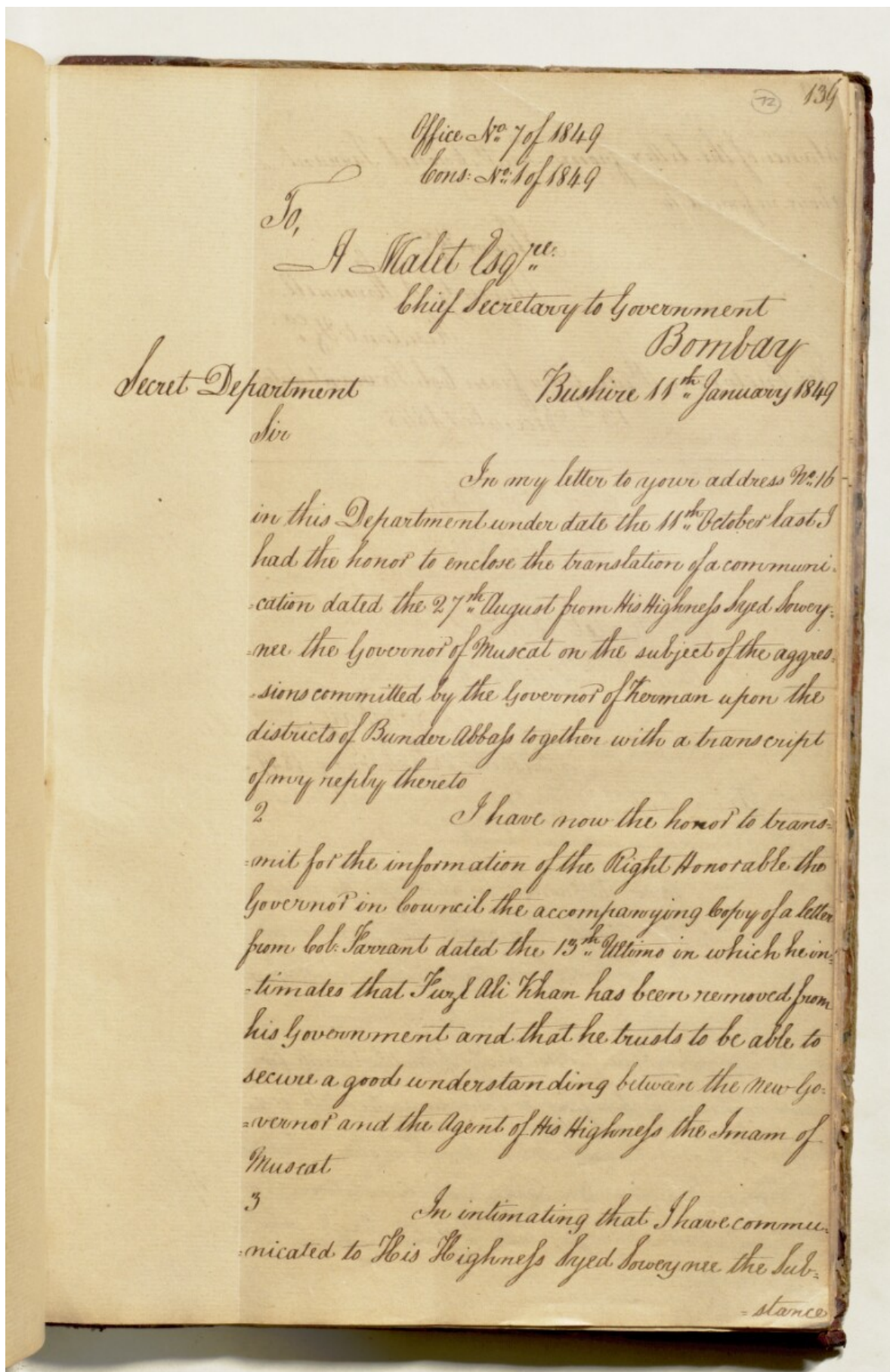
In the event of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council entertaining these views, it might perhaps be considered expedient to instruct Captain Hamerton the Political Agent at Zanzibar, to discourage the Imam from mixing himself in the struggle for power between the Ex-chief of Bahrein and his grand Nephew.











Office No. 7 of 1849

Cons. No. 1 of 1849

To,

A. Malet Esq^r.

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 11th January 1849

In my letter to your address No. 16
in this Department under date the 11th October last I
had the honor to enclose the translation of a communica-
tion dated the 27th August from His Highness Syed Soory-
nee the Governor of Muscat on the subject of the aggres-
sions committed by the Governor of Horman upon the
districts of Bunder Abbasp together with a transcript
of my reply thereto

2 I have now the honor to trans-
mit for the information of the Right Honorable the
Governor in Council the accompanying copy of a letter
from Col. Savant dated the 13th Ultimo in which he in-
timates that Fayl Ali Khan has been removed from
his Government and that he trusts to be able to
secure a good understanding between the new Go-
vernor and the Agent of His Highness the Imam of
Muscat

3 In intimating that I have commu-
nicated to His Highness Syed Soorynee the sub-
stance



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stance of the letter from Lieut. Colonel Savant...
above referred to

I have &c.
Signed/ J. Connell
Resident &c.

For Enclosure. Vide letter from Col Savant dated
13th December 1848

Office No 66 of 1849
Cons: No 2 of 1849.

To,

A Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to the Government,

Bombay

Bushire 28th February 1849.

Secret Department

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that on the 24th Instant, a boat arrived from Bahrain, having been specially despatched by Sheikh Mahomed bin Khulafa the Chief of that Island for the purpose of bringing a Communication to my address from himself dated the 9th Instant of which the accompanying is a copy and translation. By the same opportunity a high Casti Arab Coll was sent by the Sheikh as a present.

1/

2



1141.
72
2^d The apparent object of Sheikh Mahomed's letter, is to declare himself a British Subject. On first perusing this document it struck me, the expressions used by the Sheikh might be employed by him in the not unusual mode of Eastern compliment, and exaggeration, for the purpose of enlisting the exercise of my influence in his behalf to induce the late Seiders from Bahrein to return to their homes. On reference however to a letter from Hajee Jassern our Agent on that Island I found that the proposition made by Sheikh Mahomed, to place himself under the British Government had been debated in an assembly of the principal Members of his family and apparently unanimously agreed to.

3 In my reply dated the 21st January 1848 to a suggestion from the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, as conveyed in your Despatch No. 535 under date the 14th December 1847, regarding the formation of a treaty of alliance with the Sheikh of Bahrein, I ventured to submit the reasons which appeared to me to weigh against the policy of entering at that time into more intimate relations with this personage. Although I am still disinclined to alter the opinion I then expressed, I think it right to observe, that the question now presents itself in another point of view, than that which existed

at



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at the time it was laid before Government. Between
originating a proposition for an alliance on our
part, and the spontaneous offer of placing himself
under the authority of Great Britain, now made by
Sheik Mahomed himself, lies a material difference; so
much so, that in my reply to the Bahrein Chief, I
have intimated, that a point of such importance
cannot be decided upon by any subordinate authority,
and therefore I have submitted his desire to become a
British Subject for the consideration and decision
of the Government.

^{4th} I am
I am quite satisfied that in case of
his proposition being rejected, Sheik Mahomed ben
Ahmed would rest content in his present position
as an independent Chief, I should have no hesitation
in repeating my decided opinion that the inconveniences
attending a closer connexion with him would outweigh
the advantages arising from such an arrangement.
It is however evident from the tenor of the Sheik's
letter, that he is strongly impressed by the tranquil and
flourishing condition of Howat and the Commercial Ports
on the Persian Coast, the first as a dependency of the
Ottoman Porte, the last as subject to the Persian Government.
He is too proud and self-sufficient to see that the peace
and prosperity enjoyed by those Towns arise altogether from
the mild and just sway exercised over them by their respective
Chiefs, and not from their connexion with Turkey or
Persia.



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Persia. At the same time it must be admitted, that either of those Powers would be only too happy to accept the offer of Bahrain being placed under its authority, and although the Porte could do little towards maintaining peace and security on that Island, there can be no question, that the Persian Government, by refusing an asylum on its Coast, to the Malcontents and Leaders from Bahrain might greatly check, if it did not altogether put a stop to the Cabals and intrigues now supposed to be in operation for the subversion of the rule of Sheik Mahomed ben Khuleefa and the restoration of that of his Grand Uncle Sheik Abdoolah ben Ahmed. It may be necessary to observe that the circumstance of Bahrain becoming a Persian or Turkish dependency would not be without its embarrassments, while it certainly would diminish our influence in the Gulf.

5th On the other hand it is I think equally certain, were it once publicly proclaimed, that by the unanimous desire of the Chiefs and Inhabitants of Bahrain, that Island had become a British dependency, or even taken under the protection of England, all the Leaders of every rank and class, would speedily and willingly return to their Native Land, feeling secure, that not only would they be henceforth safe from the risk of foreign aggression, but that no acts of oppression or injustice on the part of their local rulers would be tolerated for the future. Under such a change of circumstances,



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I cannot doubt that Bahrein would speedily recover its former flourishing and prosperous condition. -

6th. I have now attempted to lay before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, both sides of the question. It will remain for the Government to decide whether the loss of our influence, likely to accrue in this quarter, from the contingency of Bahrein becoming a dependency of either Persia or Turkey, is of sufficient importance to counterbalance the trouble and embarrassment which may arise from accepting the proposition of the Chief of that Island, that he should henceforth be considered a Subject of Great Britain. It is with diffidence and some hesitation I venture to add that my own opinion inclines to the negative. -

7th. In submitting for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council a translation of my reply dated the 28th Instant to Sheik Mahomed ben Thuleefa - 2/.

I have the honor to be &c.
/signed/ J. Kerrnell.
Resident &c.

Enclosure N^o 1.

Translation of a letter from Sheik Mahomed ben Thuleefa Chief of Bahrein to Major Kerrnell Resident in the Persian Gulf dated 15th Rubeool Awul. 9th February 1849.

Al.

Your letter by the hand of Ahmed ben



75 145
ben Mahomed has reached me and I have understood
what you wrote. Thus I beg to inform you I perceive
that all the countries in this quarter are depend-
ent upon one or other of the Sultans as for example
the Coast of Persia is dependent upon the Persians and
likewise the people of Kowcit and the Wahabee Ter-
ritories &c. are dependent upon Turkey and as
I have at heart am dependent upon the Exalted
(British) Government and subject to it and I am
certain you will not consent to injury accruing
to the dependencies of the Sirhan — Accordingly my
request of you is if you approve of what I have
at heart and am bent upon that you will
cause the return to me of those who have seceded
from my territories to the advantage of the country
and its inhabitants — otherwise if you account
me dependent upon others. Be pleased to acquaint
me with whatever is conformable to the policy of
the British Government

True Translation
Signed A.B. Kemball
Assist. Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 2.
Translation of a letter from Major Kennell Resi-
dent in the Persian Gulf to Sheikh Mahomed ben
Khulefa Chief of Bahrein dated the 28th February 1849.
A.C.



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A.C. In a fortunate time and auspicious hour
your friendly letter dated 15th Rube'ool. uwel has been
received, and its contents fully understood; particularly
that part, in which you state, you perceive that all the
Countries in this quarter are dependent upon one or other
of the Sultans, and therefore as you have at heart, you
desire to be dependent upon the British Government
and subject to it. I cannot doubt the sincerity of the
friendly sentiments expressed in your letter, nor the ear-
nestness of your wish to be connected as closely as possible
with the Sikar. But my friend, this is a matter of
great importance, and one to which no subordinate au-
thority, like myself, can give a full reply. All I can do,
is, without any delay, to forward your letter to the British
Government, and as soon as I have received its orders
upon the proposition therein made, to communicate them
to you. -

In respect to the deceders from Bahrein
I am fully aware how greatly it would be to the advantage
of that place, they should return to their homes upon it.
Accordingly I have written twice acquainting them with
your friendly sentiments and recommending them, not to
expatriate themselves from their native land. In the course
of the present spring, it is my intention ~~Inshallah~~ to
proceed to the Arabian coast. Should a favorable oppor-
tunity offer I will communicate personally with you
ben



147.
ben Ibrahim and Jaffer ben Mahomed bin Sagger
and as far as friendly advice can go, will endeavour
to persuade them to meet your wishes for their return to
Bahrein.

True translation
Signed / A. B. Kemball.
Asst Resident &c

Office N^o 104 of 1849
To,
Lieut. Colonel Savant
Her Majesty's Charge D'Affaires
at the Court of Persia
Tehran
Secret Department.
Bushire 12th April 1849.

Sir,

/ Herewith I have the honor to
enclose for your information a copy of a despatch
dated the 28th February last, addressed by me
to the Bombay Government on the subject
of the Island of Bahrein

I have &c.
Signed / J. Hennell
Resident &c.

For Enclosure Vide Letter N^o 66 Page 140 of this Book.



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Office N^o 157 A of 1849
Cons: N^o 3 of 1849.

To,

A Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

H. C. Hooper of War "Uphinstone"

Sohar 17th May 1849.

Secret Department

Sir,

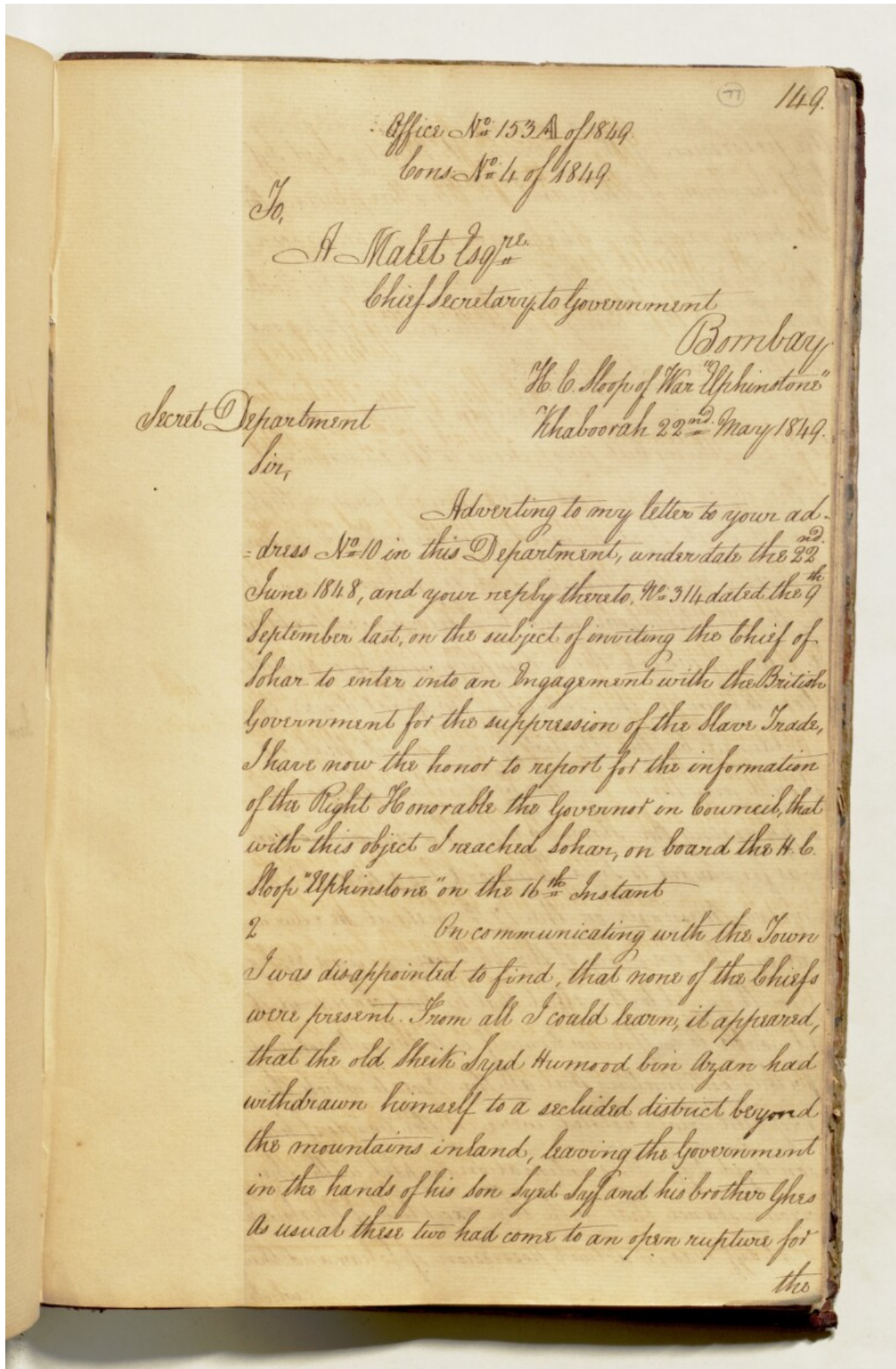
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your despatch N^o 539 in this Depart-
ment under date the 27th December last, referring
to your letter N^o 105 of the 11th April 1848 for reply to
my communication N^o 439 of the 13th October last,
regarding His Highness Syed Sooraynes' interpreta-
tion of the Treaty of 2nd October 1845 with H. H. Syed
bared for the suppression of the Slave Trade

2. In reply I have the honor to
bring to your notice, that the Extract of the first part
of para 2 of a letter from the Honorable Company's
Agent at Zanzibar N^o 19 dated the 13th September
last, referred to by you, was not received with
your despatch now under acknowledgment

I have &c^{ca}

Signed J. S. Kennell

Resident &c^{ca}





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the possession of the Supreme Authority. Syed Syf held the Town of Sohar and all the other places on the sea-board, excepting Khaloorah, which being occupied by a Garrison of 40 men belonging to his Uncle Syf, he was then besieging with a Force of upward of 6000 Arabs and 3 Guns

3 This position of affairs appeared to be any thing but propitious to the attainment of the object of my visit. Considering however that the old Sheik Syed Humood was the only Chief whose authority in this Quarter had as yet been recognized by the British Government, I determined to address a letter (of which the accompanying is a translation) to him on the subject of the great desire entertained by the British Government that he should join them in the benevolent purpose of suppressing the Slave Trade. This communication was forwarded to Syed Humood by a special Dromedary Messenger on the 17th Instant. He returned in the evening of the 20th bringing a reply from the Syed to the effect that he had considered it advisable to withdraw himself into the interior, and further intimating that all the Places to which the proposed Treaty related, were in the hands of his son Syed Syf. This intimation coupled with the circumstance that with the exception of Khaloorah Syed Syf was in actual possession of Sohar and the whole



78 151
whole Sea board of the districts belonging to that place, ap-
peared to justify me in considering him as the de facto
Chief Authority in those parts. I determined therefore
to proceed down the Batinah coast to Khaboora, where
on my arrival on the next morning I found the
young Chief with his army encamped on the beach
just out of gunshot of the Fort. The Arabs in honor of
our arrival lined the shore in several divisions with
their respective colors in the centre and fired a feu
de joie which compliment the Sloop acknowledged
by two rounds of blank cartridge from her guns.

4
Sheik Syf came on board in the course
of the morning with a numerous retinue among which
was Sheik Murhoom the Confidential adviser of
his Father Syud Humood. The young Chief is about
22 years of age, cold and reserved in his manners, but
not without a portion of that dignified bearing which
nearly all the members of the family of H. H. the Imam
appear to possess. He expressed very great satisfaction
at my visit, and assured me of his great anxiety to
cultivate the good will and opinion of the British go-
vernment. In speaking of the settlement of the
quarrel between his Father and H. H. Syud Said ar-
ranged by me in 1839 he intimated his hope that the
boundaries between the districts of Bahar and those of
Muscat, which had then been agreed upon would be
still maintained. After detailing at his request the

rise



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rise and successful termination of the late campaign in the Punjab, I brought forward the subject of the views of the British Government regarding the suppression of the Slave Trade in the Persian Gulf. Finding no repugnance exhibited by Syed Syf, I produced the Draught of the usual Treaty, which he desired to be read carefully over to him. After one or two observations he said, he had not brought his seal with him, but would affix it on shore. To this I made no objection, saying that I would send my Arabic Moonshier with him for this purpose. He then took his departure under the usual salute.

5 In the course of the afternoon my Moonshier Hajee Ahmed returned to the ship accompanied by Sheikh Marhoon, who brought the seal of Sheikh Syf for the purpose of affixing it to the Treaty. The detention of the Mooya on shore I found had been occasioned by a long discussion upon the terms of the Engagement, with which some of the influential people about the Sheik were dissatisfied. However after hearing all the arguments for and against, it was at last decided that it would be contrary to Syed Syf's interest, to hold himself aloof from a Treaty, which all the other Chiefs friendly to the British Government had joined. Accordingly Sheikh Marhoon was sent on board the *Elphinstone* with a request from his chief that the Engagement should not

come



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come into operation before the 22nd June next. To
this wish I consented and the necessary dates having
been inserted the seal of Sayed Syf was affixed to the
Treaty

3
In forwarding for the information
of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council an
authenticated copy and translation of this document

I have &c.
Signed J. Hornell
Resident &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

Translation of a letter from Major Hornell Resident in
the Persian Gulf to Sayed Howwood ben Ayan Chief of
Sohar dated 17th May 1849.

Alc. A great many years having passed -
since I last had the pleasure of meeting that friend,
I have taken the opportunity of being on my annual
visit to the Chief of the Arabian Gulf to call at Sohar
in the hopes that I might enjoy the satisfaction of
again seeing you. I am therefore not a little disap-
pointed on my arrival to find that friend now
absent at Porstat. Remembering however that the
friendly interchange of letters, is half a visit, I have
addressed these lines to you

You are doubtless aware that friendly
relations of the Sultan of Constantinople, the Shah
of



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of Persia, the Imam of Muscat, and all the Arabic
chiefs of the Persian Gulf with the British Govern-
ment have been drawn still closer, by entering
into certain Treaties with it, having in view the
suppression of the exportation of Slaves in their vessels.
It has occurred to me that as you have ~~been~~ al-
ways ^{been} on such amicable terms with the English
by whom your position as an independent chief
has been fully recognized, you ought to be included
among those friends, by entering into the same
Engagement as they have done. Accordingly I
now despatch a special messenger with a trans-
cript of the Treaty in question which I trust
you will seal and sign and thereby prove the
value you place upon the friendship of the
British. As I have come all this distance for the
express purpose of entering into this Treaty with
you on the part of the British Government I
hope you will not cause the latter to doubt your
friendly feelings by returning an unfavorable re-
ply, as I am sure the Sarkar would be deeply
disappointed, were I to have to report, that you
were the only one among all the chiefs of the
Persian Gulf who had declined to join in this En-
gagement. As I purpose remaining at Shar-
wut I ^{I trust you will send me a reply} receive your answer ^{together} with the
enclosed copy of the Treaty properly signed with
the



the least possible delay

True Translation
Signed / S. Hennell
Resident of ^{ca}

Translation of a letter from Sheikh Syed ben Humood
of Sohar to Major Hennell Resident in the Persian Gulf da-
ted the 25th Jumadee 1st 1260 (19th May)

Ala I had the gratification of receiving
your letter on Friday the 24th Jumadee 1st 1260 (18th
May) and derived pleasure and satisfaction therefrom
seeing it informed me of your welfare and good health.
I was deeply grieved at my ill-fortune in not meeting
you owing to my being absent at Orba which is situ-
ated at a distance from the sea, and where I have
deemed it advisable to take up my residence. You state
your desire that I should sign and seal the paper
transmitted to me. Know that the places to which that
document relates are in the hands of my son Sayf.
I believe that the whole of the affairs of Oman -
whether great or small are not concealed from
you

True Translation
Signed / S. Hennell
Resident of ^{ca}

Enclosure



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Enclosure No. 3.

Translation of an Engagement entered into by Sayd
Syf ben Humood Chief of Sohar for the abolition of
the African Slave Trade in his Ports

It having been intimated to me by
Major Hennell the Resident in the Persian Gulf,
that certain conventions have lately been entered
into by the Ottoman Porte and other Powers, with
the British Government for the purpose of pre-
venting the exportation of Slaves from the Coast of
Africa and elsewhere, and it having moreover been
explained to me, that in order to the full attainment
of the objects contemplated by the aforesaid Conventions
the concurrence and co-operation of the Chiefs of the
several Ports situated on the Arabian Coast of the
Persian Gulf are required. Accordingly I Sayd
Syf ben Humood Chief of Sohar with a view to
strengthen the Bonds of Friendship existing between
me and the British Government, do hereby en-
gage to prohibit the exportation of Slaves from
the Coasts of Africa, and elsewhere on board of my
vessels and those belonging to my Subjects or De-
pendents such Prohibition to take effect from the
29th Rajab 1265 A. H. or the 21st June 1849 A. D.

And I do further consent, that
whenever the Cruizers of the British Government
fall in with any of my vessels, or those belonging
to



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to my Subjects or Dependents, suspected of being en-
gaged in the Slave Trade they may detain and
search them, and in case of their finding, that any
of the vessels aforesaid have violated the Engagement
by the exportation of Slaves from the Coasts of Africa
or elsewhere upon any pretext whatsoever, they
(the Government Cruisers) shall seize and confis-
cate the same

Dated this 28th day of Jumadee-ul
Akhir 1265 A. H. or 22nd day of May 1849 A. D.

SD of Syed Syfben Humood

True Translation

/Signed/ J Connell

Resident &c

Office N^o 154 C/1849

Cons. N^o 5/1849

To,

A Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bombay 30 May 1849.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter N^o 436 in this Department
under date the 10th November 1848 on the 28th April
last, transmitting copy of a despatch from the Ho.
-norable



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Honorable the Secret Committee dated the 23rd Septem-
ber, forwarding transcript of a communication
from the Right Honorable Viscount Palmerston to
Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at the Court of Per-
sia on the subject of giving effect to the Commands
of the late Shah, for the prohibition of the impor-
tation of Slaves into his Territories by Sea. -

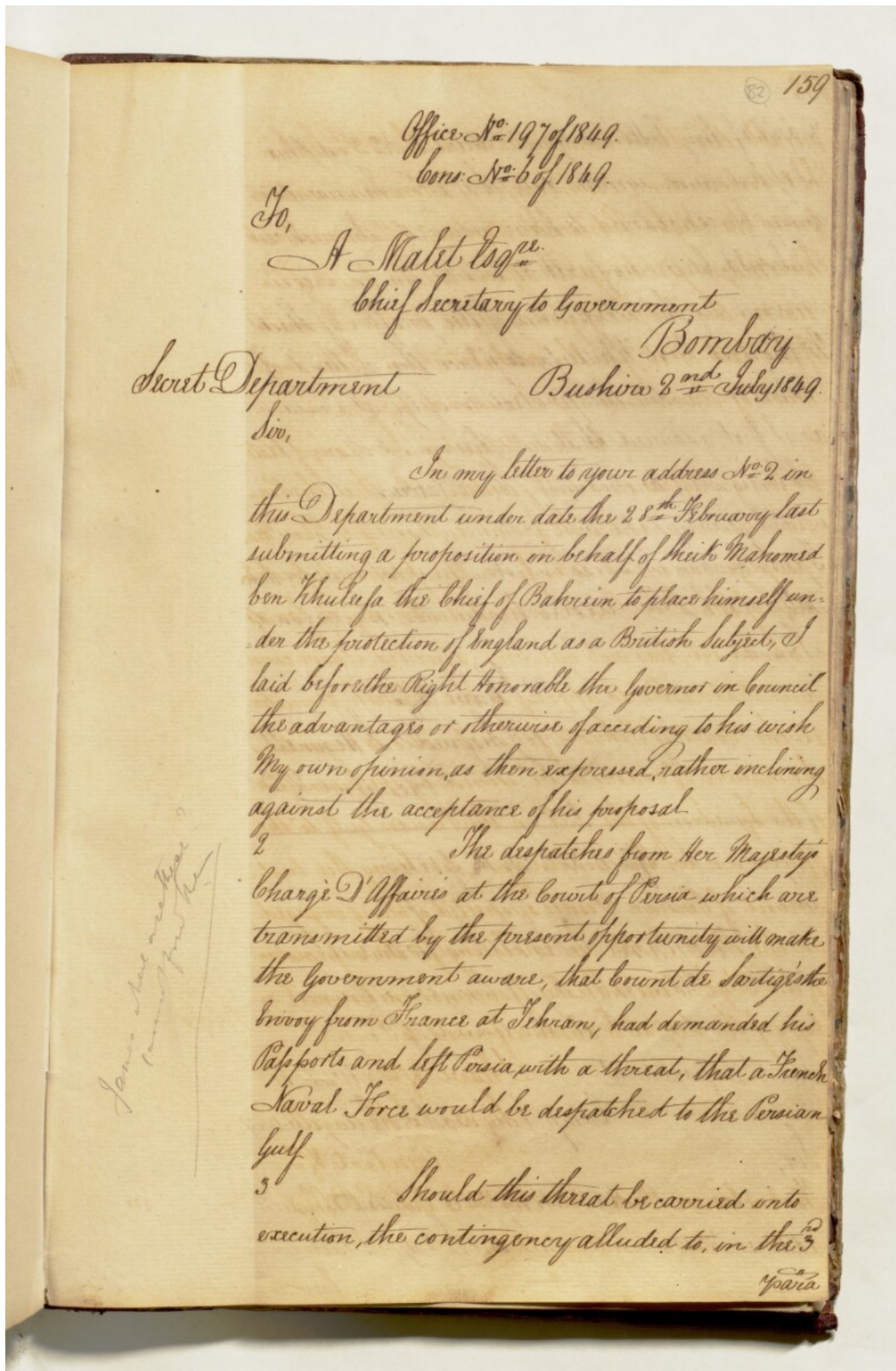
2 As Her Majesty's Secretary of State
for foreign Affairs evidently anticipates that the Per-
sian Government will grant authority to Her Ma-
jesty's Government to enforce the proposed prohibi-
tion of the Slave Trade which authority, so far as
I am aware, has not yet been afforded, I have consi-
dered it advisable to apply to the British Minister
at the Court of Tehran for instructions regarding
the nature of orders to be issued by the Commander
of the Squadron of the L.N. in the Persian Gulf to the
Officers under his command, touching the treat-
ment of Persian Vessels suspected of being engaged
in the Slave Trade. In enclosing for the information
of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council a
copy of the despatch above referred to

I have &c.

/Signed/ L. Hennell

Resident &c.

For Enclosure Vide Letter No 154 B. Sub. S.B. Page



Office No 197 of 1849.

Cons. No 6 of 1849.

To,

A Malet Esq^r.

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Bushire 2nd July 1849.

Sir,

In my letter to your address No 2 in
this Department under date the 28th February last
submitting a proposition on behalf of Khulafa bin
Khulafa the Chief of Bakoon to place himself un-
der the protection of England as a British Subject, I
laid before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council
the advantages or otherwise of acceding to his wish
My own opinion, as then expressed, rather inclining
against the acceptance of his proposal.

The despatches from Her Majesty's
Charge D'Affaires at the Court of Persia which were
transmitted by the present opportunity will make
the Government aware, that Count de Sartiges the
Envoy from France at Schran, had demanded his
Passports and left Persia with a threat, that a French
Naval Force would be despatched to the Persian
Gulf

Should this threat be carried into
execution, the contingency alluded to, in the 3rd

Paris



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Paris of my letter to your address N^o 3 in this
Department under date the 21st January 1848
may be considered to have arrived. In such case
I should have no further hesitation in recom-
mending the acceptance of the proffer of Sheikh
Mahomed ben Khulafa to place the Island of
Bahrein under the protection of Great Britain
as I feel assured that on the event of our de-
clining this proposition, the Bahrein Chief-
would gladly take advantage of the presence of a
French Naval Force in this quarter to place him-
self and his Territories under the protection of
France

I have &c.

Copied for Colonel Farrant / Signed / S. Hennell
Resident &c.

Office N^o 224 A of 1849.

To,

Lieutenant Colonel Farrant
His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires
at the Court of Persia.
Secret Department. Tehran
Camp near Bushire 6 August 1849.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter to your
address N^o 104. under date the 12th April last in-
closing



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closing a copy of a despatch to the Bombay Government regarding a certain proposition made to me by the Sheikh of Bahrein, I now do myself the honor to transmit for your information, a transcript of a second communication dated the 2nd ultimo to the address of Mr. Chief Secretary Malet, modifying for reasons therein set forth the adverse opinion expressed by me in my former letter upon the proposal of Sheikh Mahomed ben Khulafa.

I have &c.

Signed/ J. Hennell

Resident &c.

For Enclosure Vide N^o 197 Page 159 of this Book

Office N^o 243 of 1849

Cons. N^o 7 of 1849

To,

A. Malet Esq^{re}

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department

Sir

Bushire 27 August 1849

Adverting to my letter to your address under date the 2nd July last N^o 6 in this Department I now do myself the honor to transmit for the information of the Right Honorable

ble.



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ble the Governor in Council the accompanying
copy of a communication dated the 14th Instant
addressed by me to Lieut-Colonel Sarrant Her
Majesty's Charge D' Affaires at the Court of Persia.

I have &c

/Signed/ J Hennell

Resident &c

For Enclosure Vide Page 224 A Page 160 of this Book.

Office N^o 351 A of 1849

To,

Lieutenant Colonel Sarrant

Her Majesty's Charge D' Affaires
at the Court of Persia.

Teheran

Bushire 21st November 1849

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter under date the 14th Sep-
tember last on the subject of the offer made
by the Sheikh of Bahrein to place his territory
under British Protection and conveying the au-
thority of Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs
to decline this offer in civil terms assuring that
chief of the continuance of the good will and
friendship of the British Government

2

Agreeably to these instructions I
have



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have addressed a letter to Sheikh Mahomed ben
Khulefa the chief of Bahrein making him
aware of the determination come to in respect
to his proposal by Her Majesty's Government.
I have the honor to enclose a translation of
the same for your information and to be

Sir Y^{ca}.

Signed/ J Hennell
Resident Y^{ca}.

Enclosure N^o 1

Translation of a letter from Major Hennell Resi-
dent in the Persian Gulf to Sheikh Mahomed
ben Khulefa chief of Bahrein dated 21st No-
vember 1849

Sir, On the 15th Rabe ul Awwal, your my
friend, addressed a letter to me in which you
intimated your desire to become dependent
upon the British Government and subject
to it. Agreeably to your wish this proposition
having been submitted to the Authorities both
in India and England, I have been in-
structed in reply to express the high grati-
fication which has been derived from this
striking proof of the friendly feelings enter-
tained by you towards the British Govern-
ment. Considering however that the ami-
cable



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cable relations established by former Treaties
with the Rulers of Bahrein, have been produc-
tive of such satisfactory results the Government
is unwilling to make any change in them
God Willing you my friend will continue
in the same position as that occupied by
all your Predecessors I have however been
further directed to assure you of the con-
tinuance of the good Will and friendship
of the British Government towards yourself
True Translation
/ Signed / J Hennell
Resident ^{Gen}

Office N^o 355 A of 1849
Cons: N^o 8 of 1849

So,

A Malet Esq^r
Chief Secretary to Government
Bombay

Secret. Department Buxire 23 November 1849
Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the
information of the Right Honorable the Governor
in Council the accompanying copy of a letter
from Lieut Colonel Servant Gen. Majestys Charge
D' Affaires at the Court of Tehran dated the 14th
September.



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September last, on the subject of the proposal
of the Sheik of Bahrein to place himself under
the protection of the British Government, and
conveying the Authority of Her Majesty's Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs to decline the offer
thus made

2/ In my reply to Siut^h Col. Farrant
(a copy of which is likewise enclosed for the in-
formation of Government) I have forwarded
the translation of a communication of the same
date addressed by me to Sheik Mahomed ben
Khuleifa the Chief of Bahrein informing him
of the determination come to by the British
Government to decline his offer of placing him-
self under its protection as a dependent, at
the same time assuring him of the contin-
uance of its friendship and good will

I have &^{ca}
Signed S. Hennell,
Resident &^{ca}

For Enclosure N^o 1 Vide Letter from Siut^h
Colonel Farrant dated 14th September 1849.

For Enclosure N^o 2 Vide Letter N^o 351 A
Page 162 of this Book



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Office N^o. 365 of 1849

Cons. N^o. 9 of 1849

To

A. Malet Esq^r

Chief Secretary to Government

Bombay

Secret Department Bashiore 30th November 1849

Sir,

On the 25th Instant I had the honor to receive your despatch N^o. 223 in this Department under date the 31st May last on the subject of the application of the Chief of Bakwin to be taken under the protection of the British Government as its dependent, and also transmitting copy of a communication from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Right Honorable the Governor General dated the 16th Idem N^o. 209 in which His Lordship expresses his opinion that it is not expedient to form any closer connexion with the Attobee Chief, but at the same time directs the question to be submitted to the Home Authorities

2

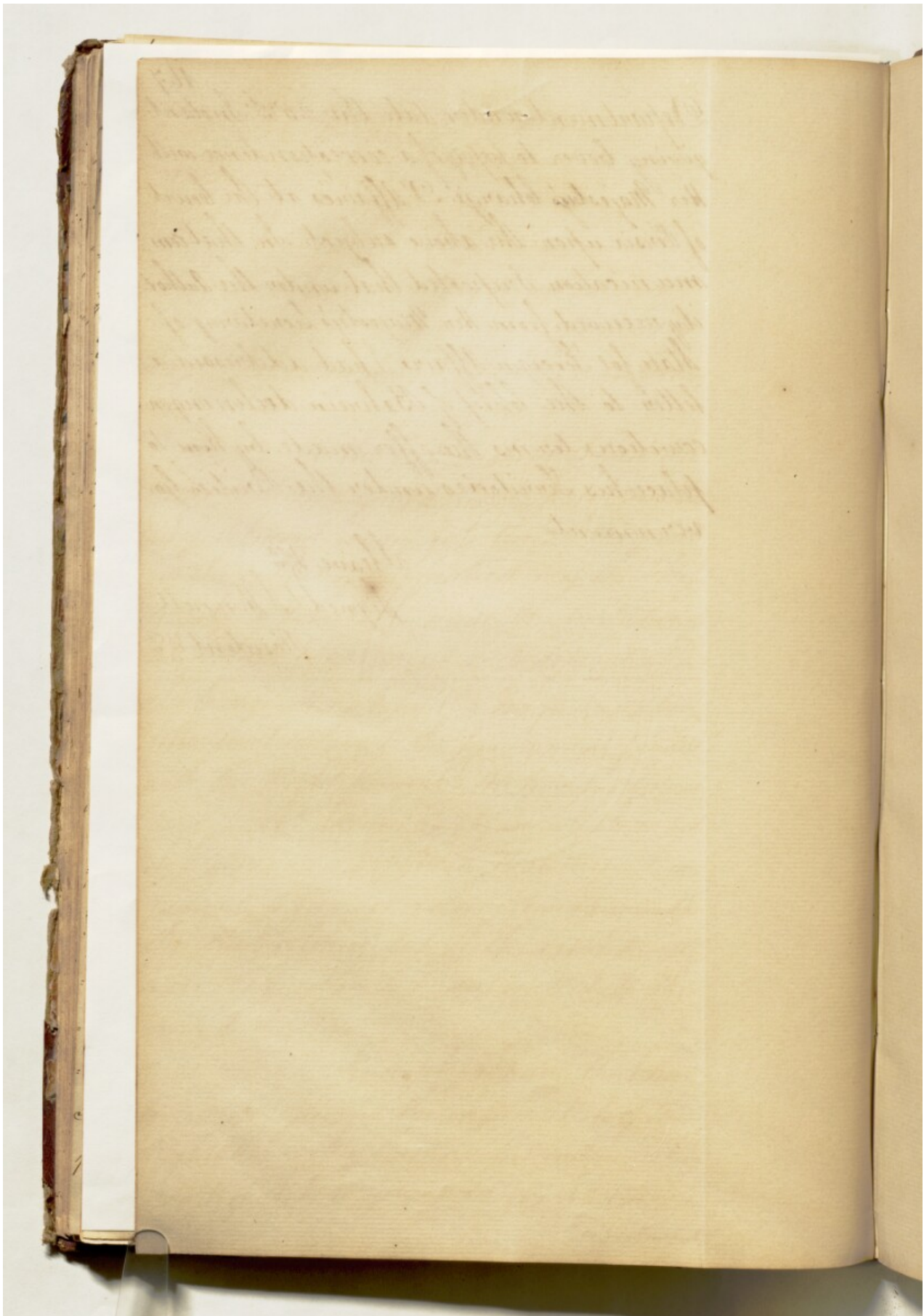
In reply I have the honor to refer you, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to my despatch to your address N^o. 8 in this

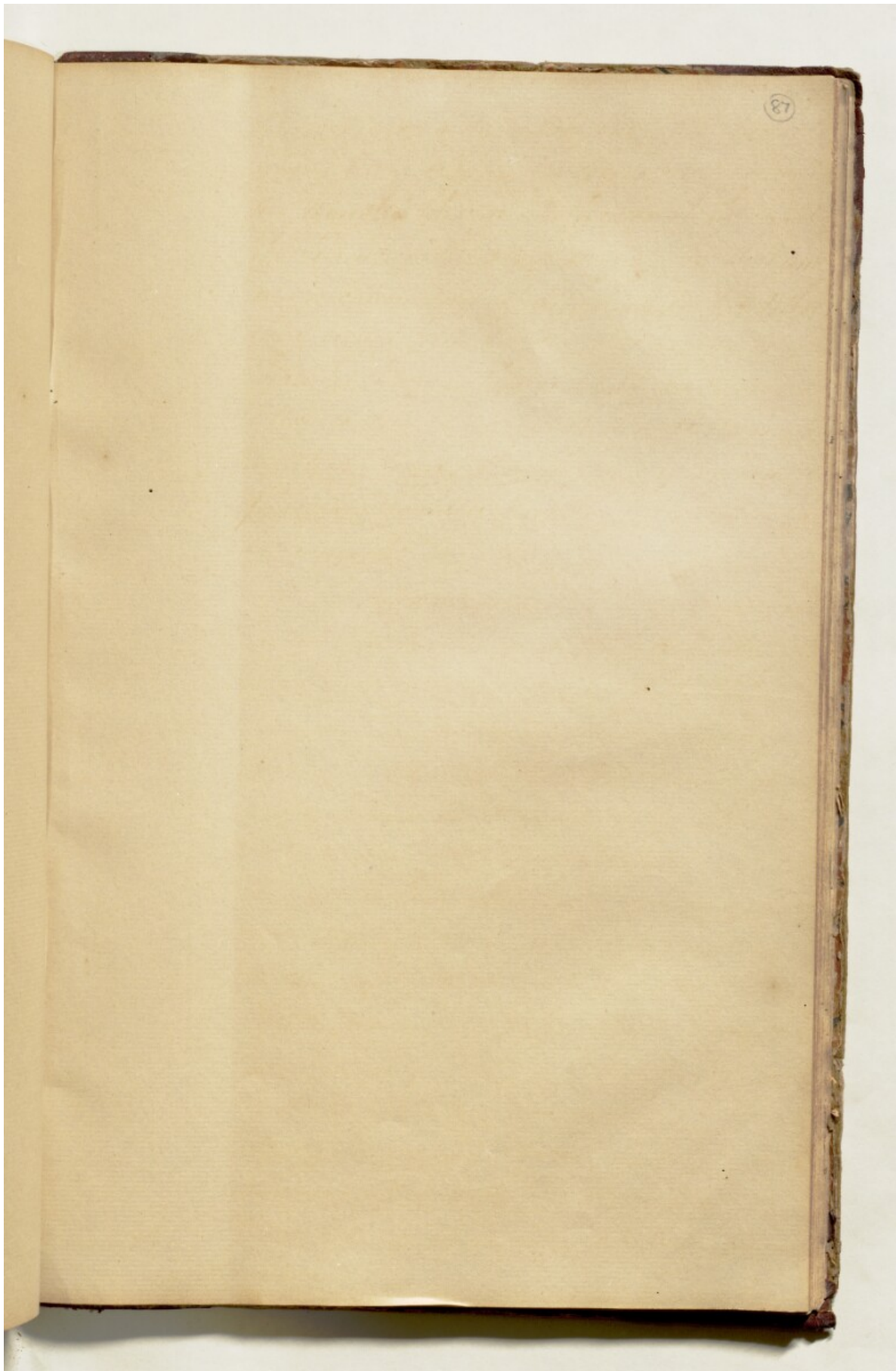
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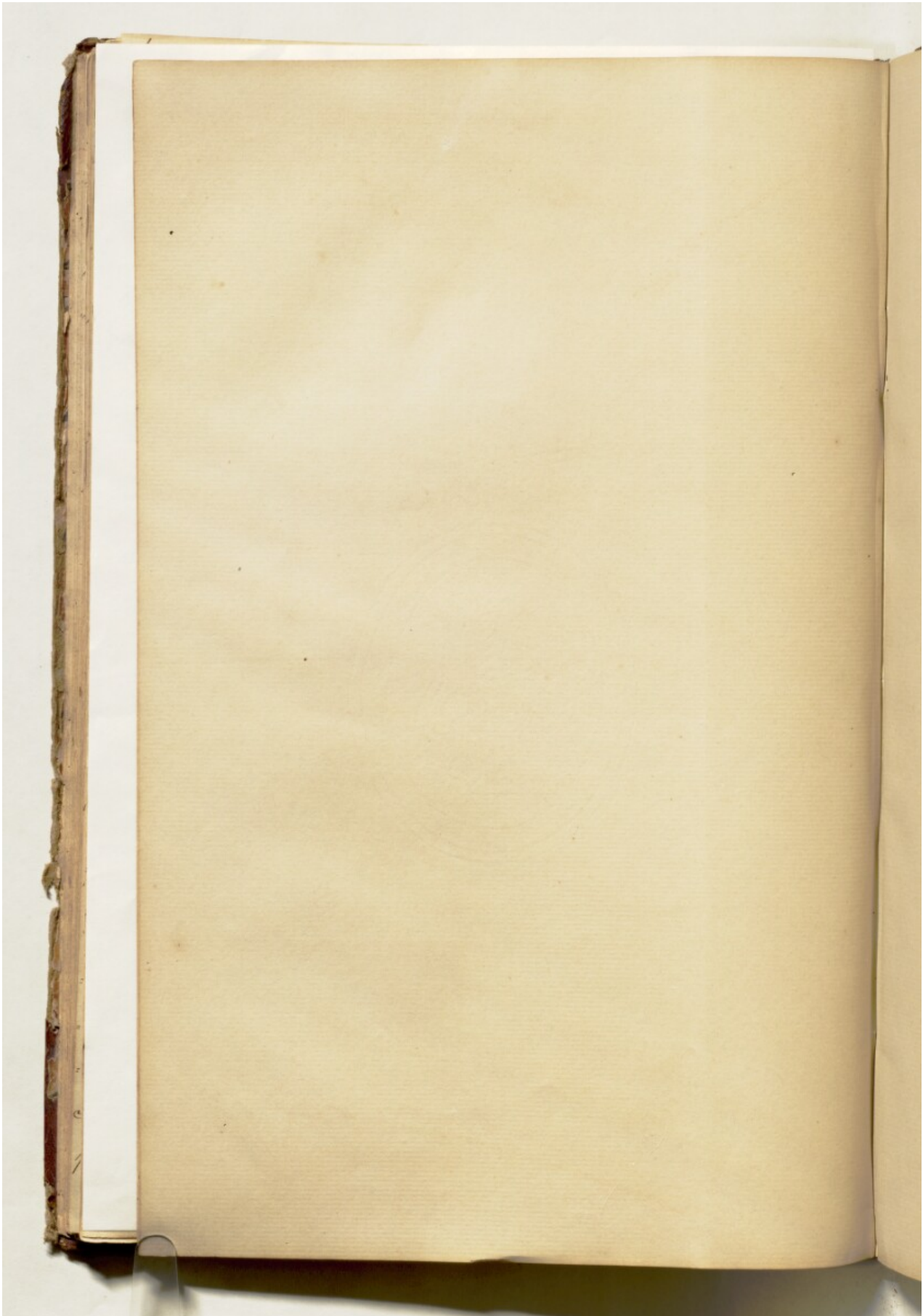


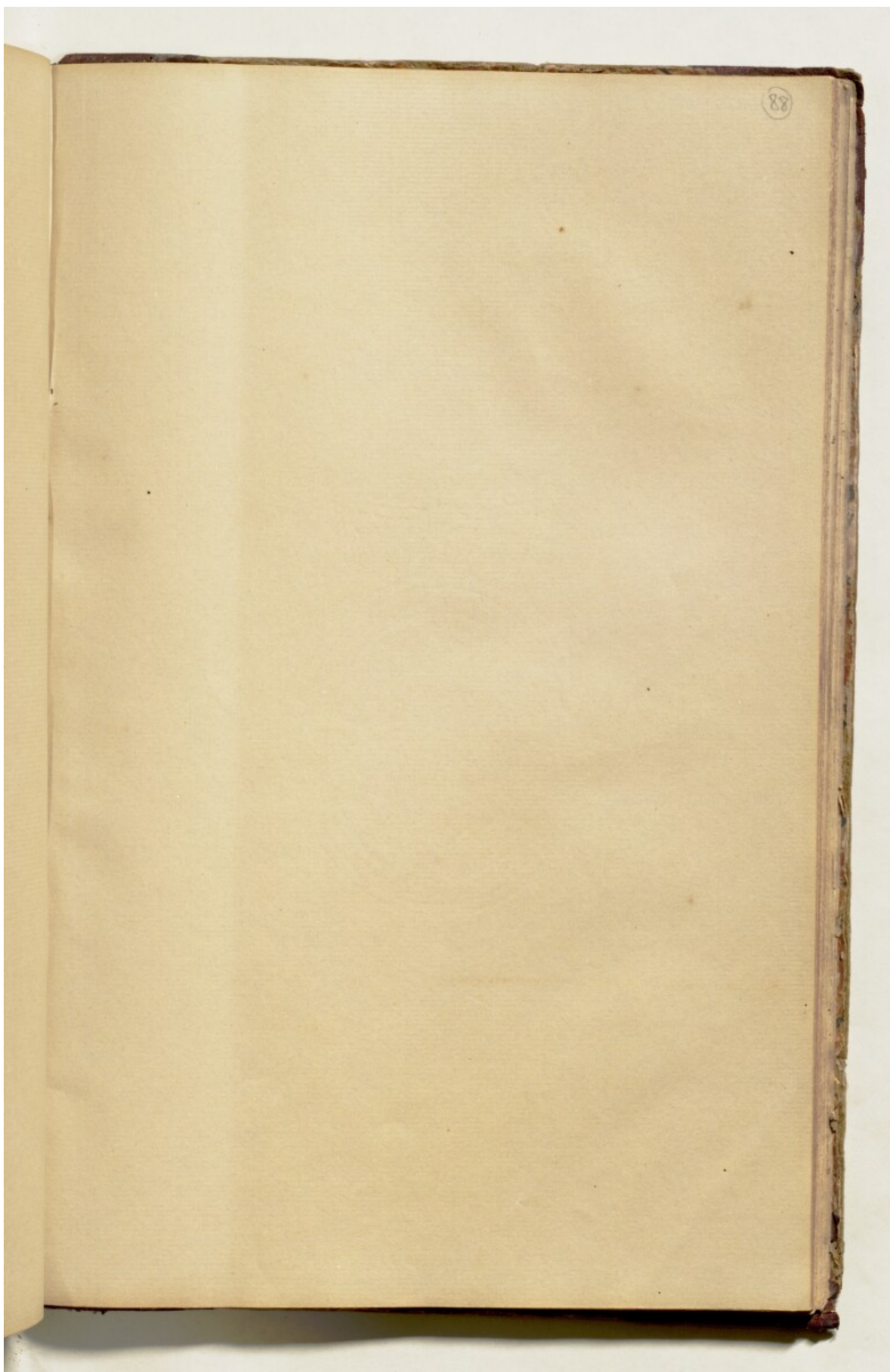
167
Department under date the 23rd Instant
giving cover to copy of a correspondence with
Her Majesty's Charge D'Affaires at the Court
of Persia upon the above subject. In that com-
munication I reported that under the author-
ity received from Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for Foreign Affairs I had addressed a
letter to the Chief of Bahrein declining in
courtious terms the offer made by him to
place his Territories under the British go-
vernment

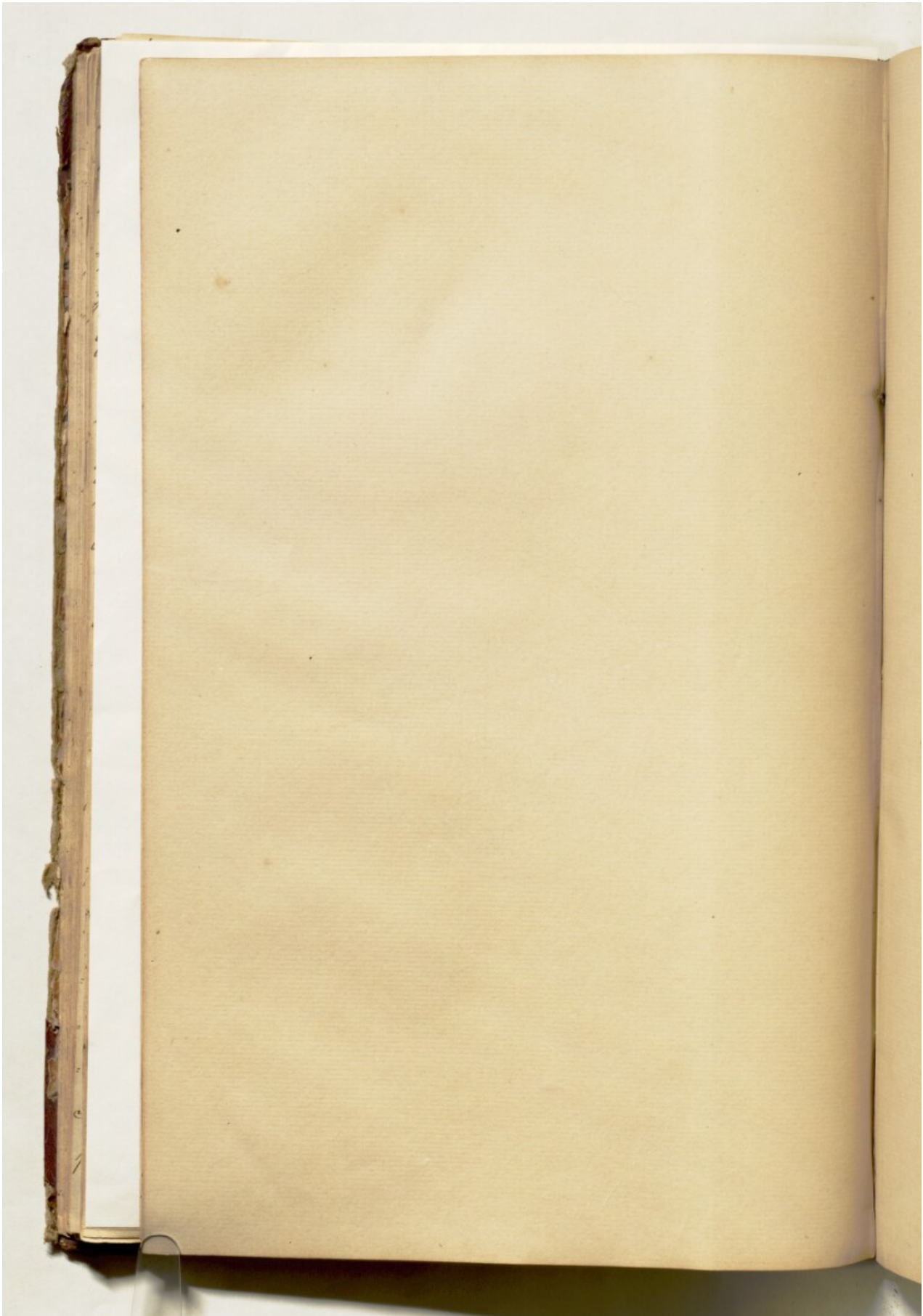
I have &^{ca}
Signed / J Hennell
Resident &^{ca}

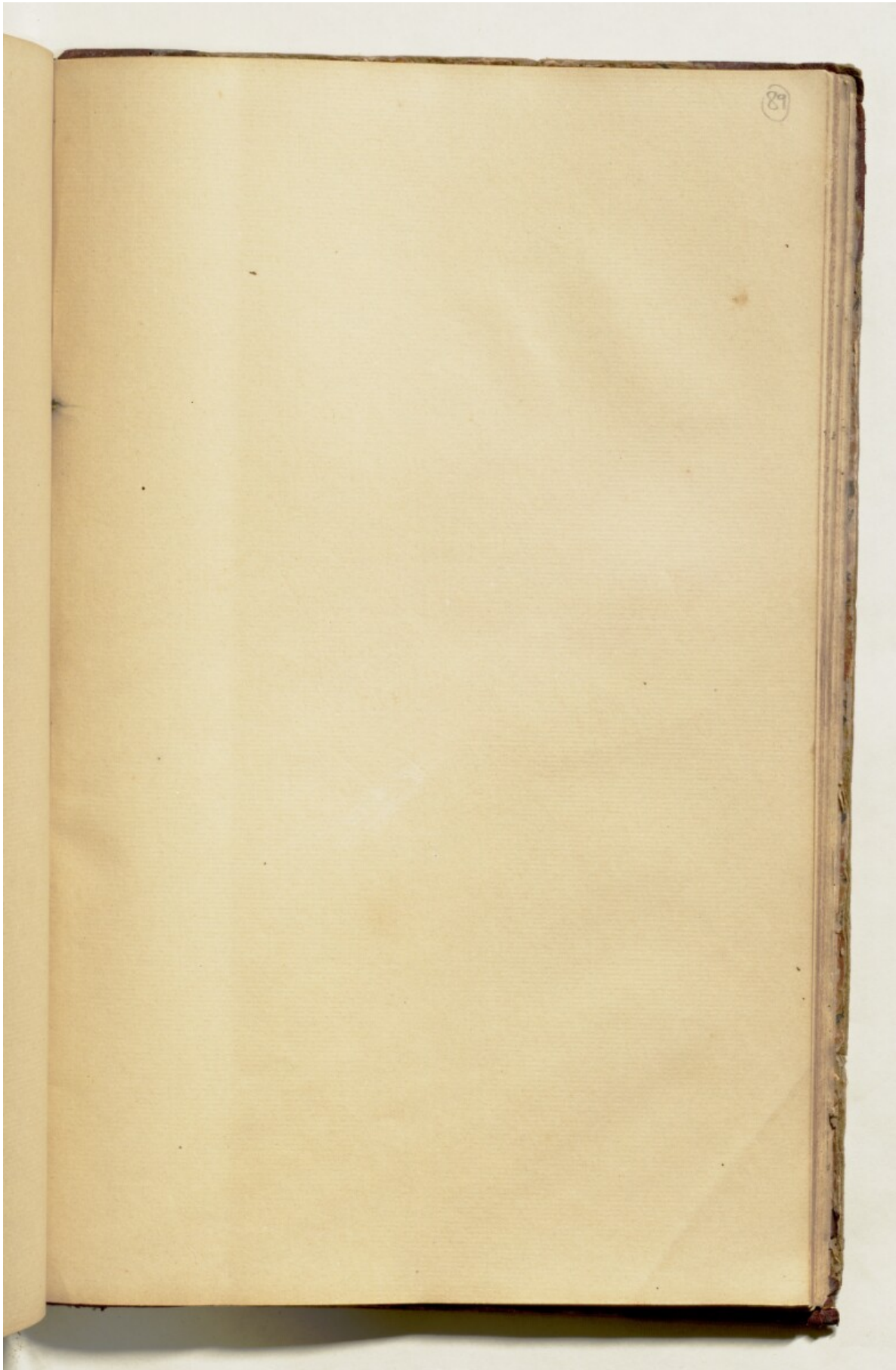
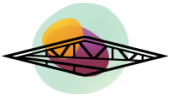


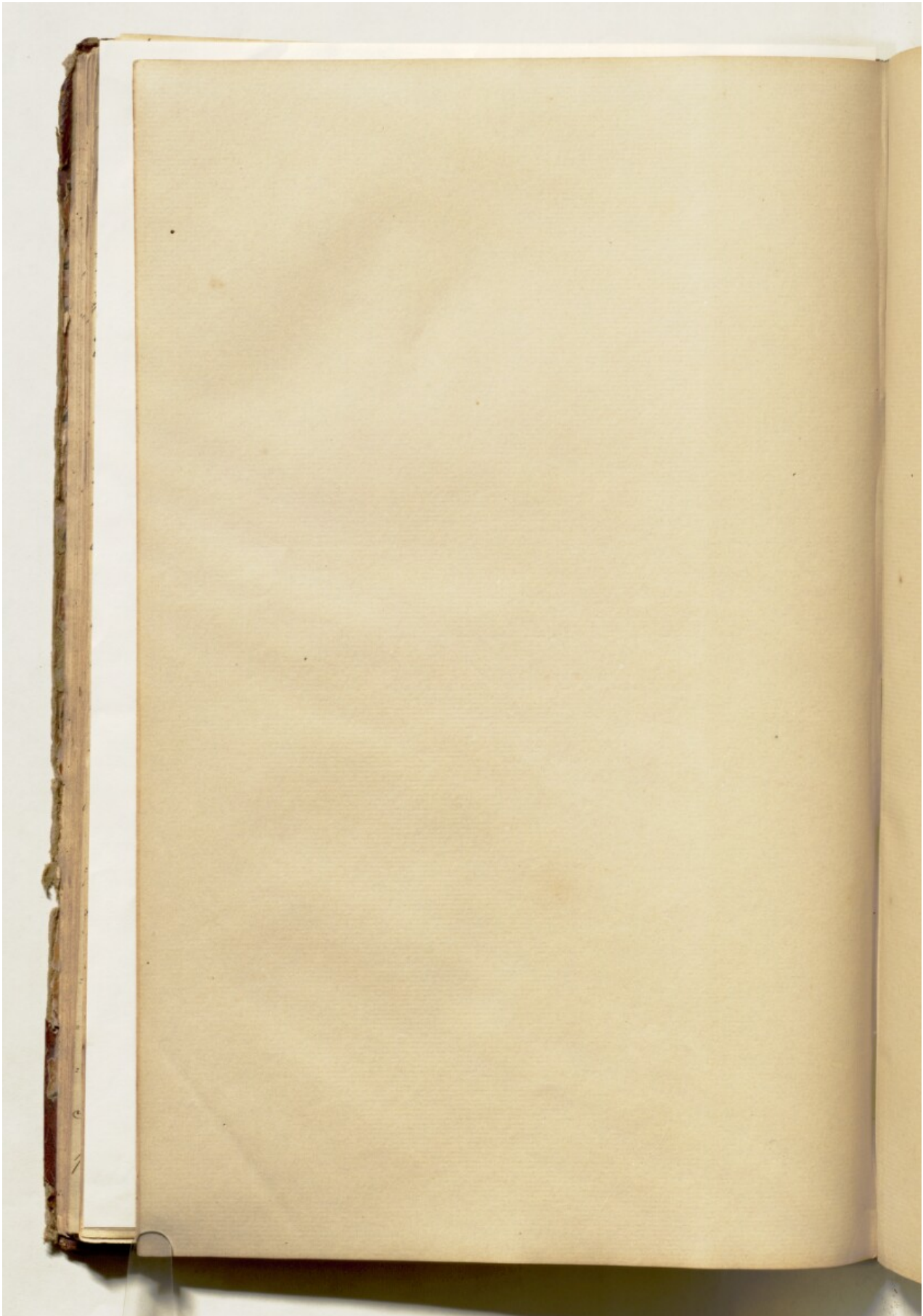


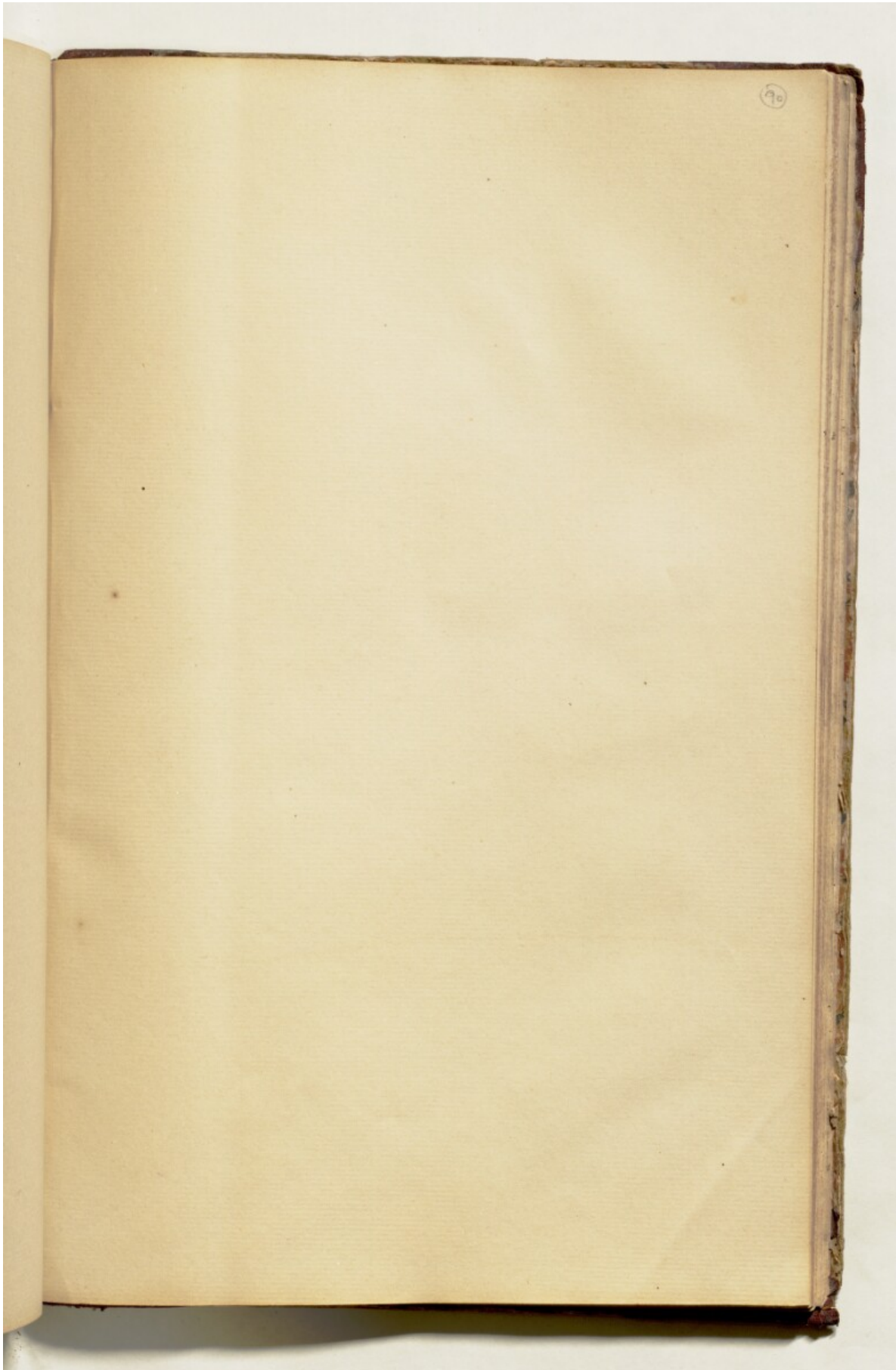
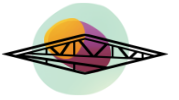


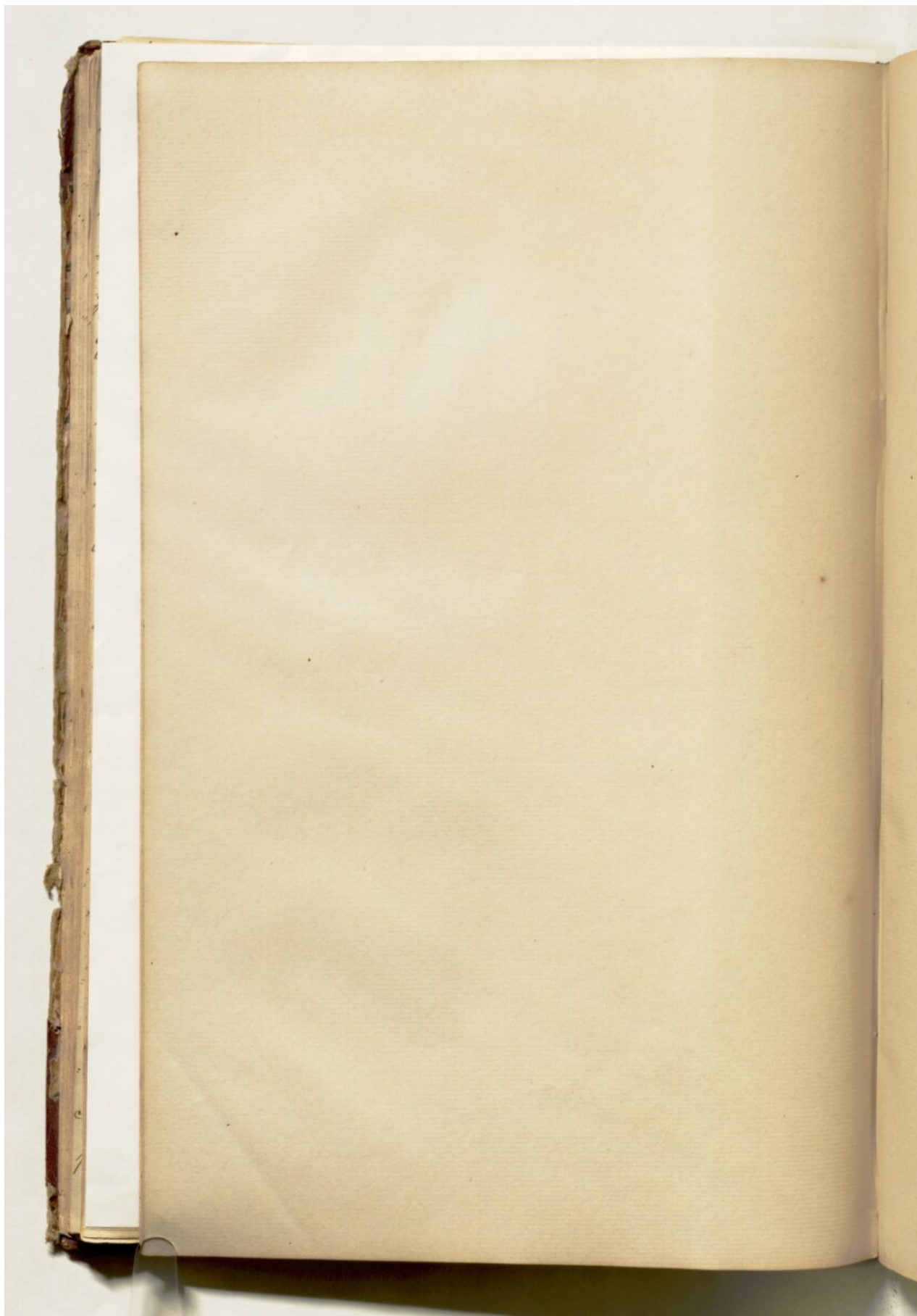


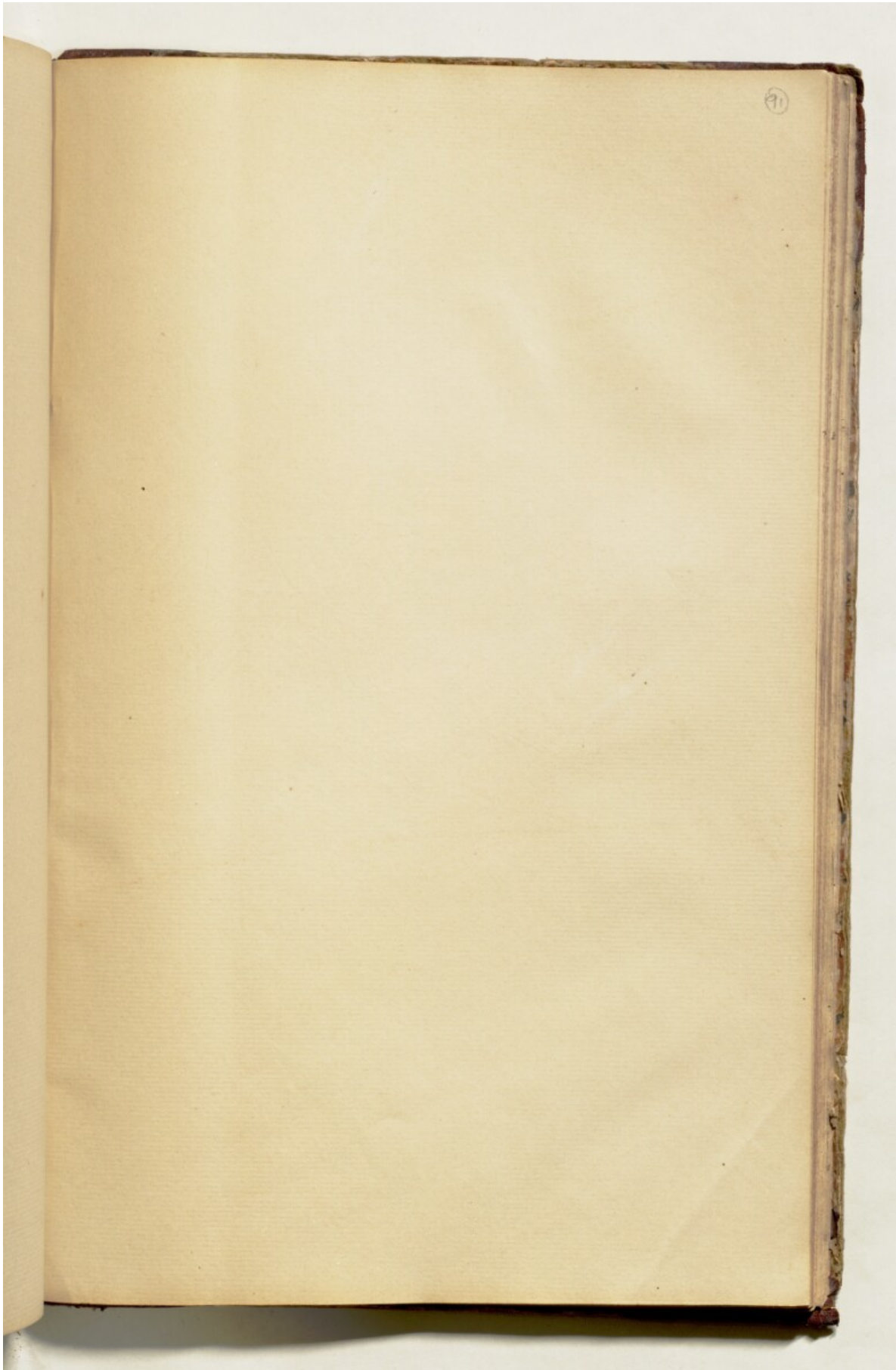
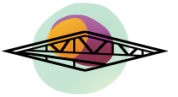


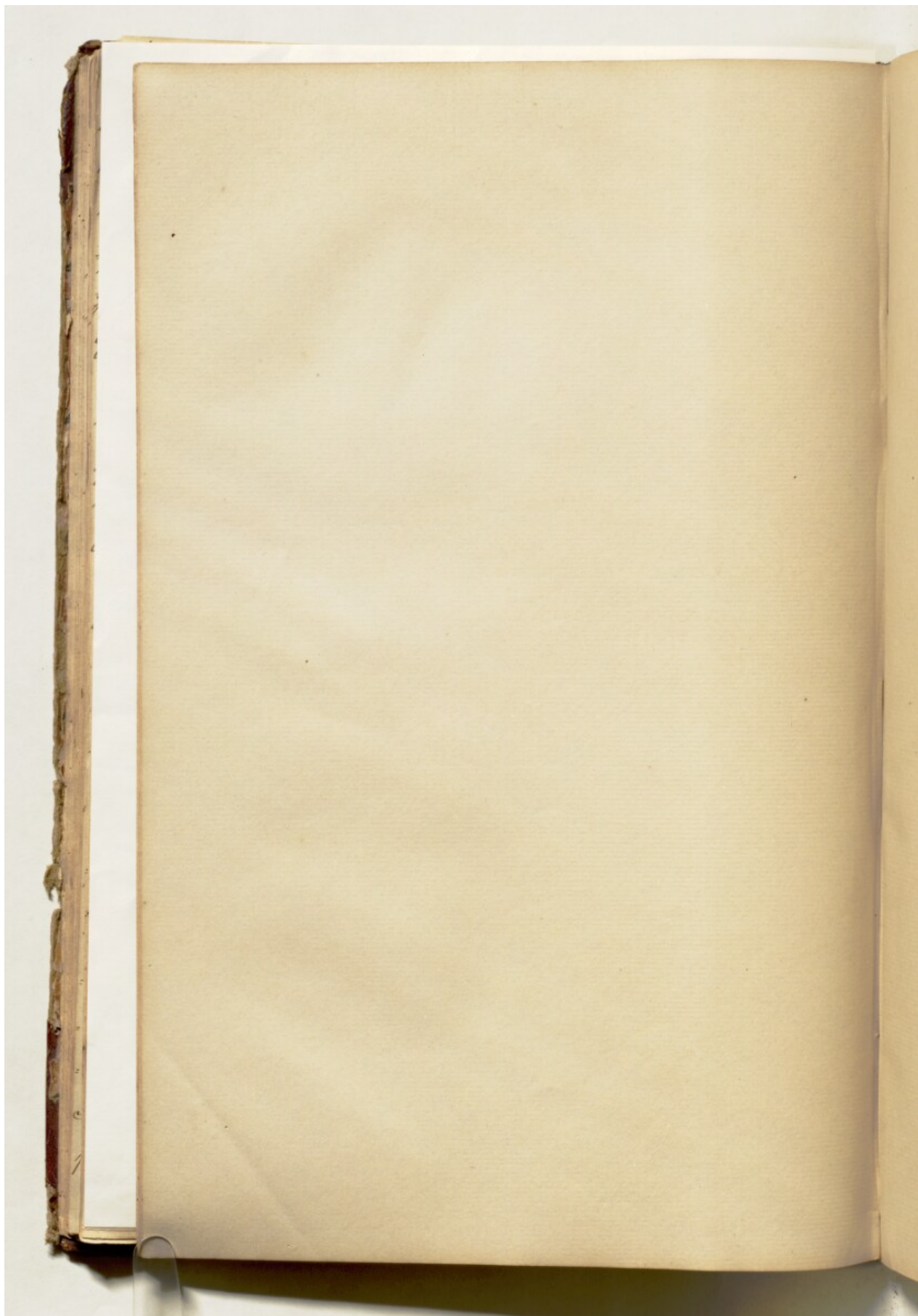


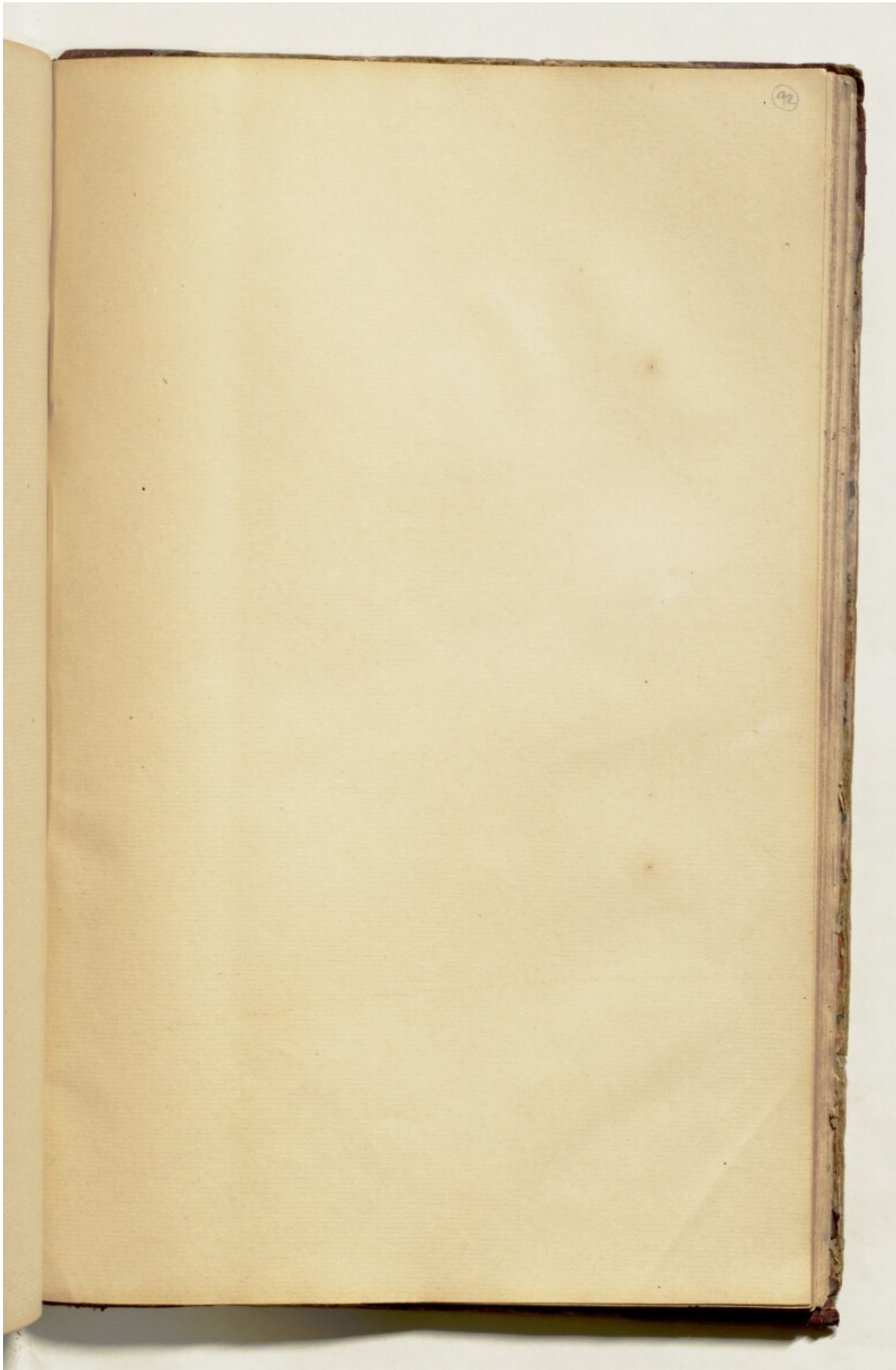


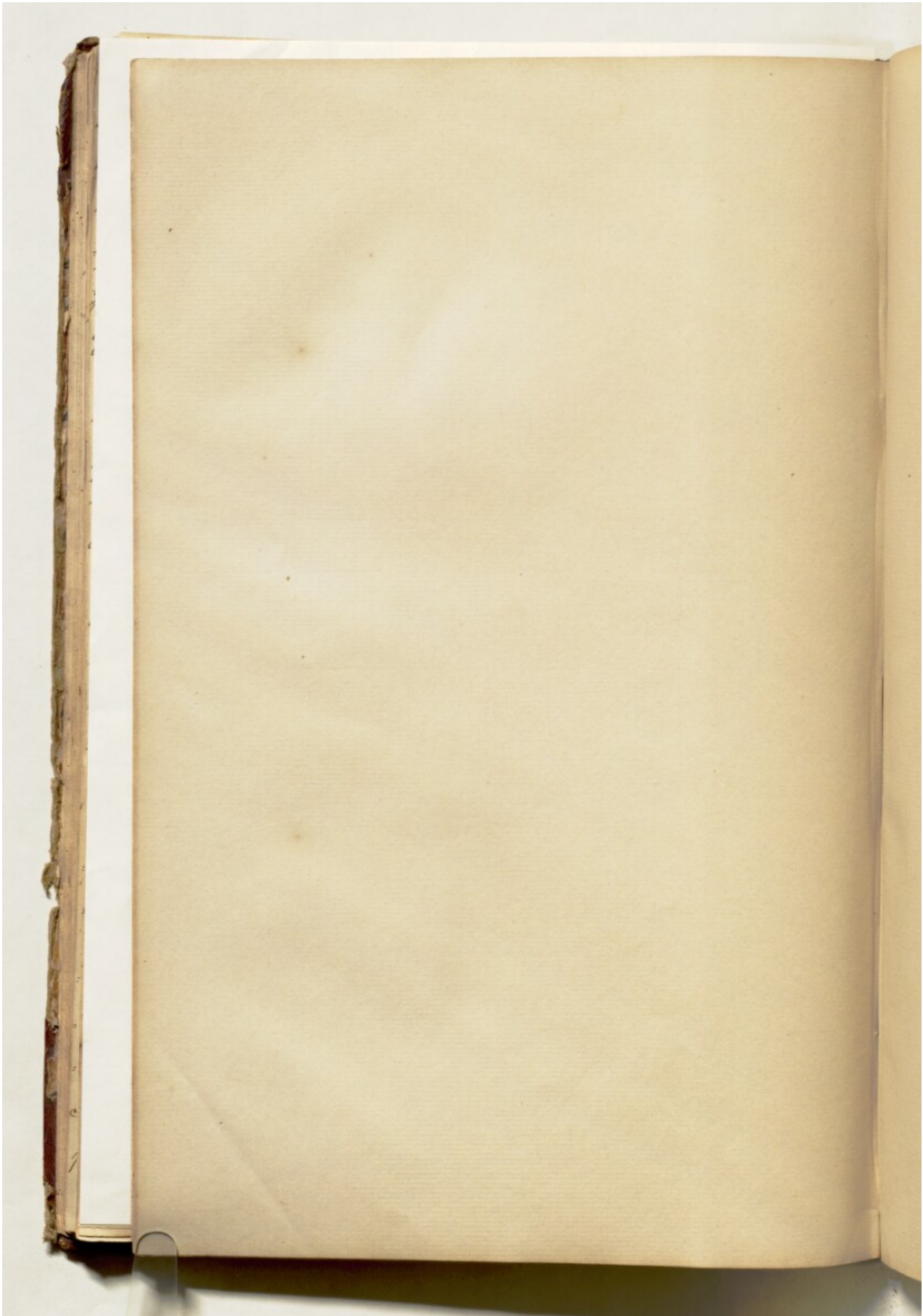
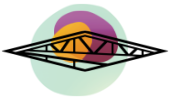


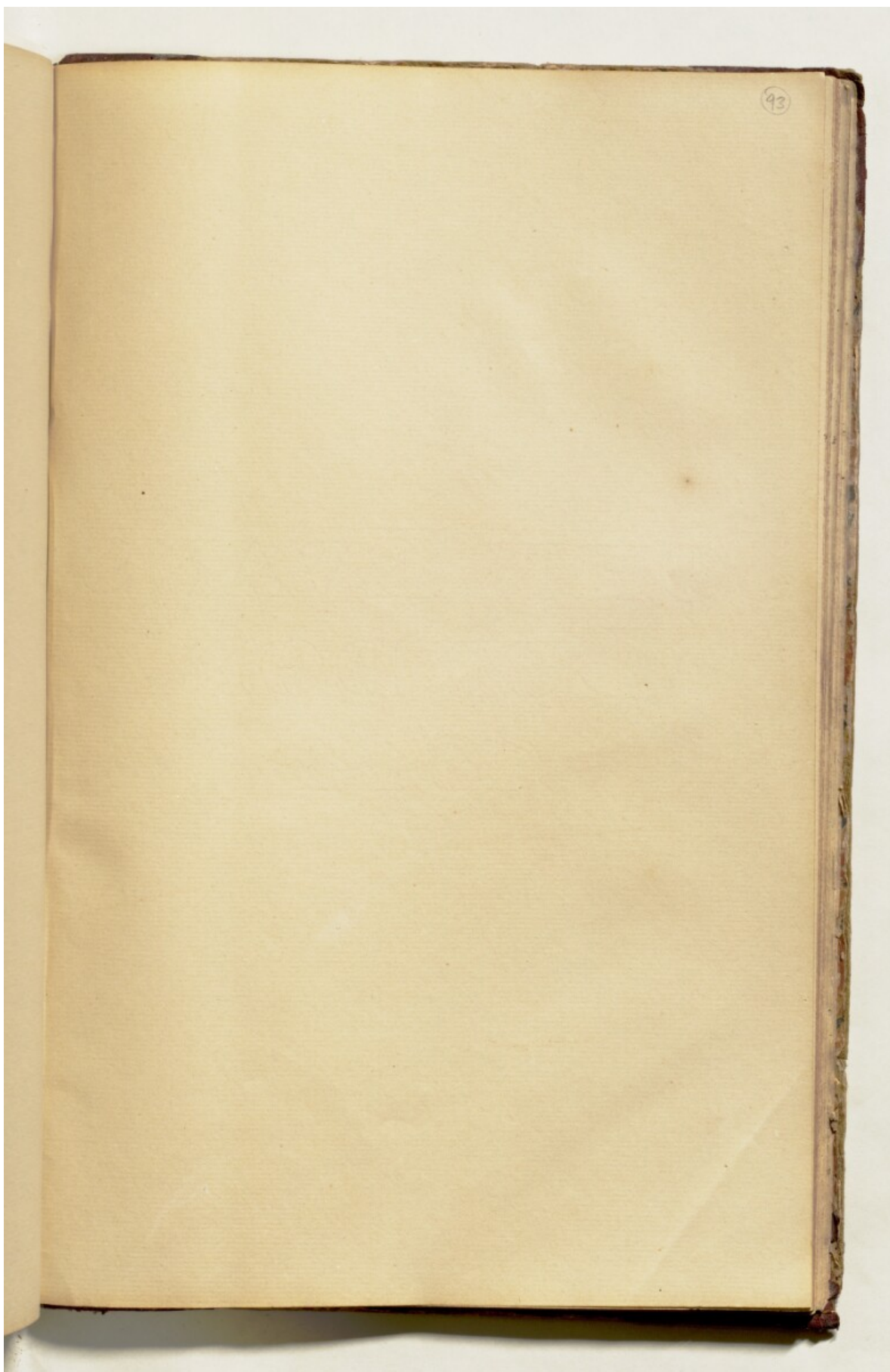


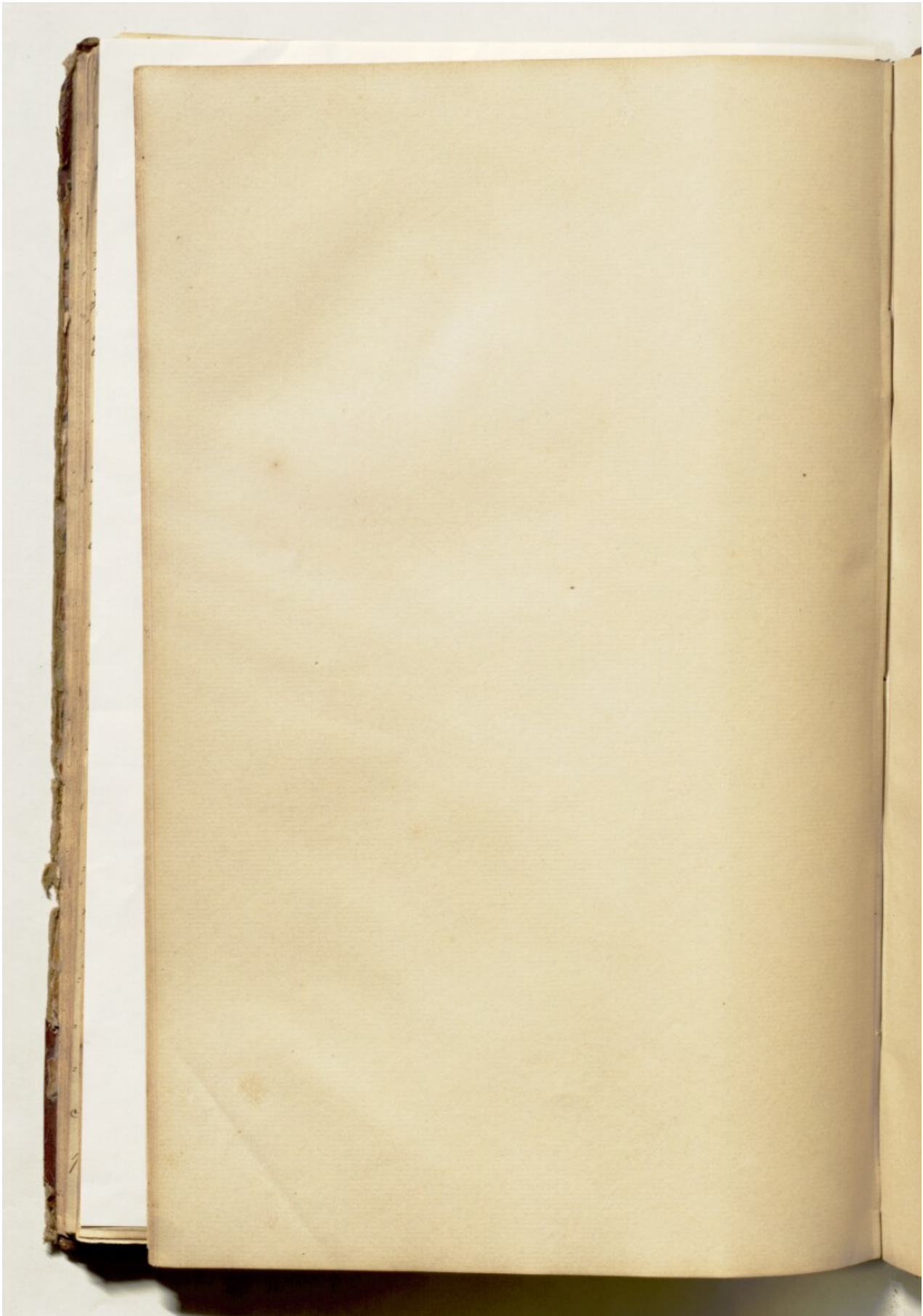


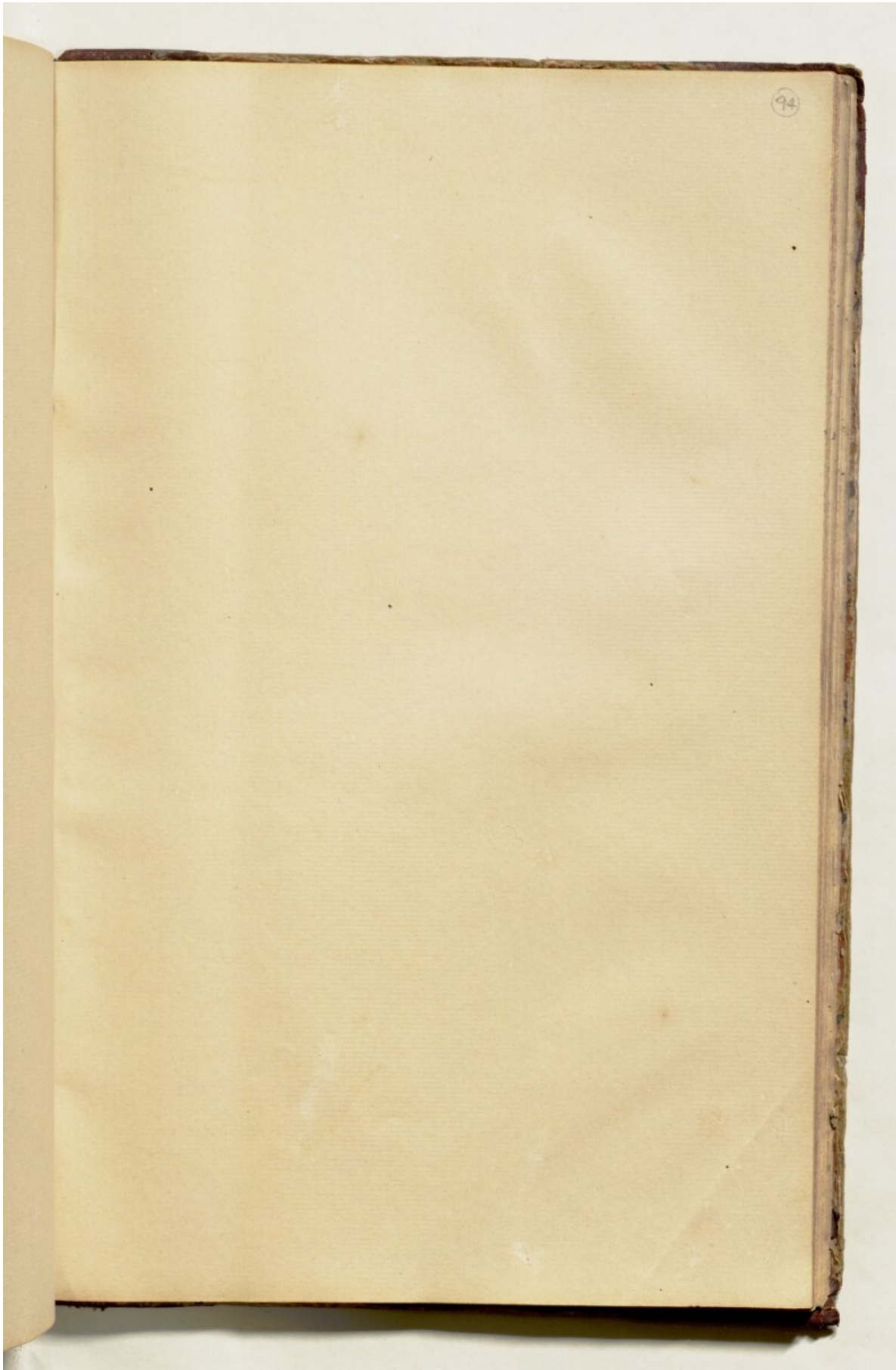


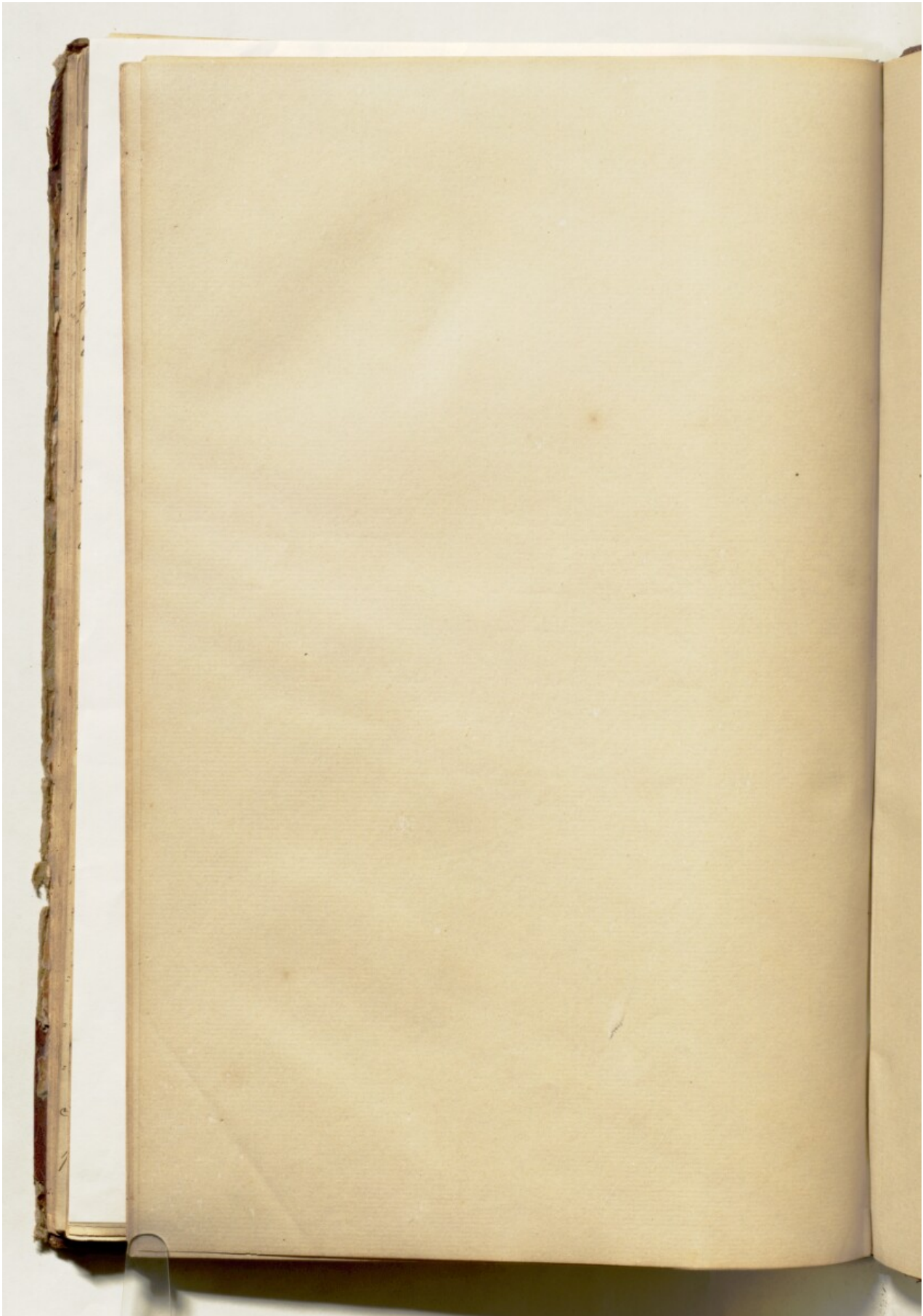


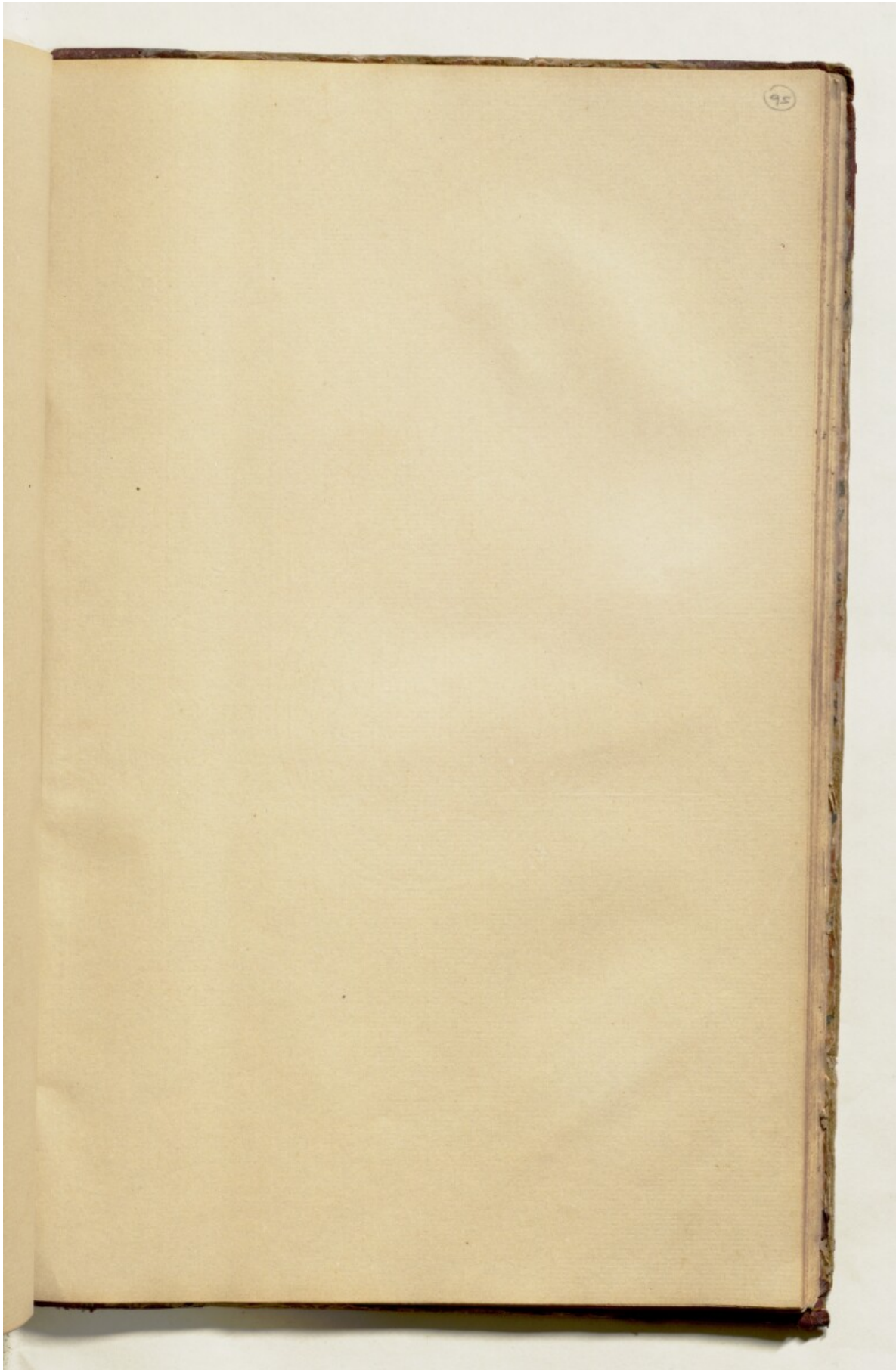


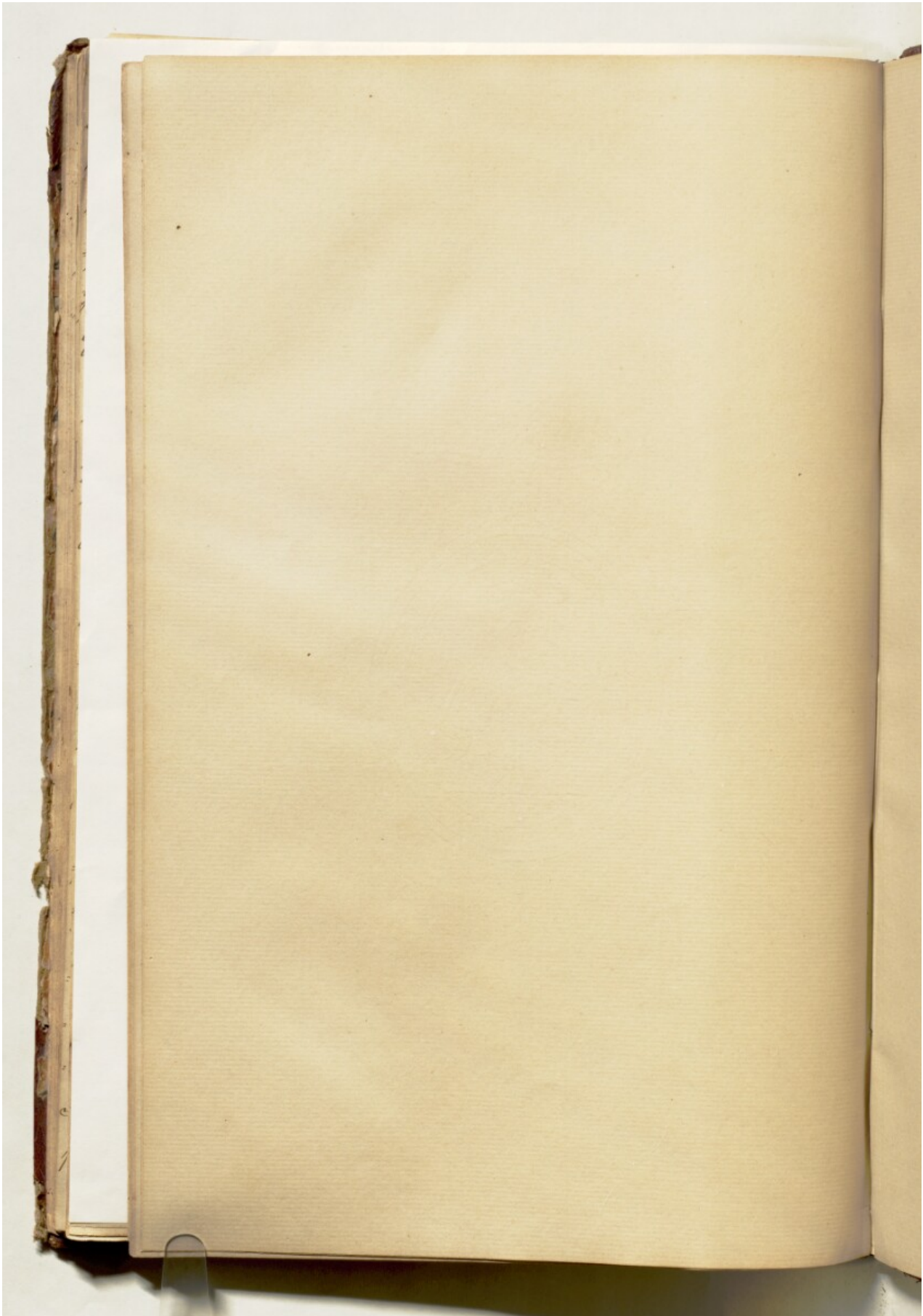


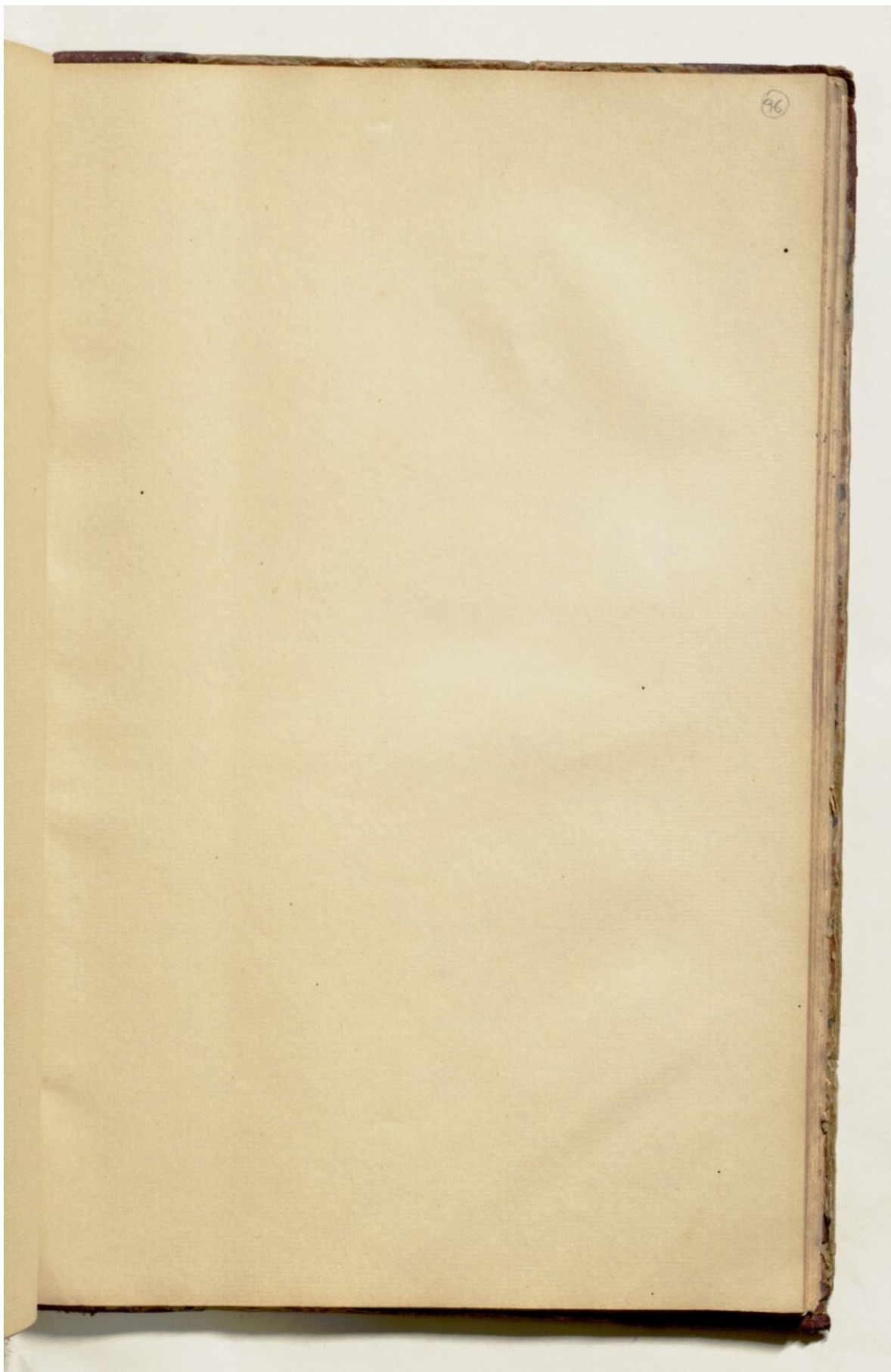
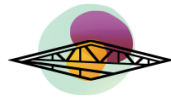


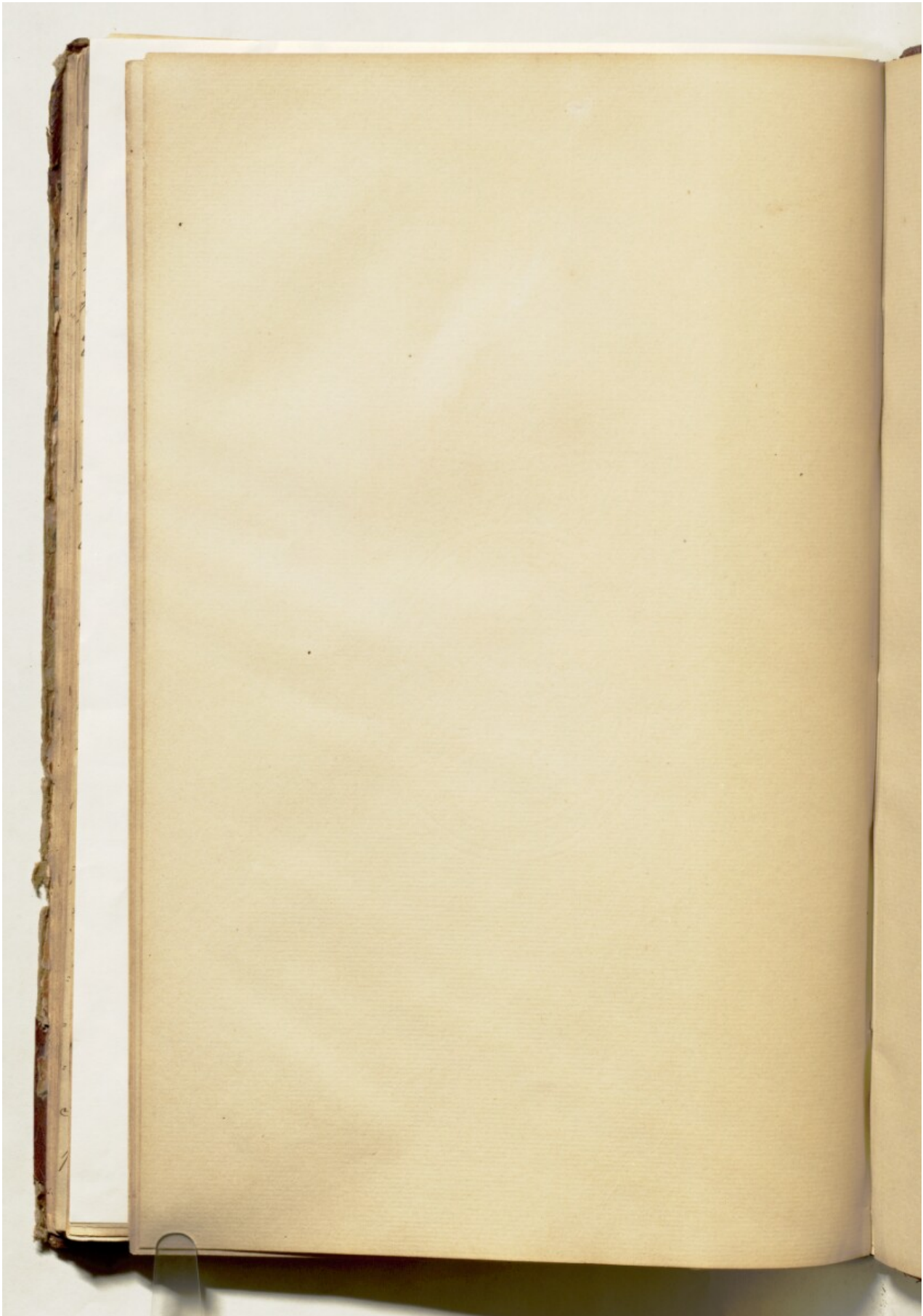


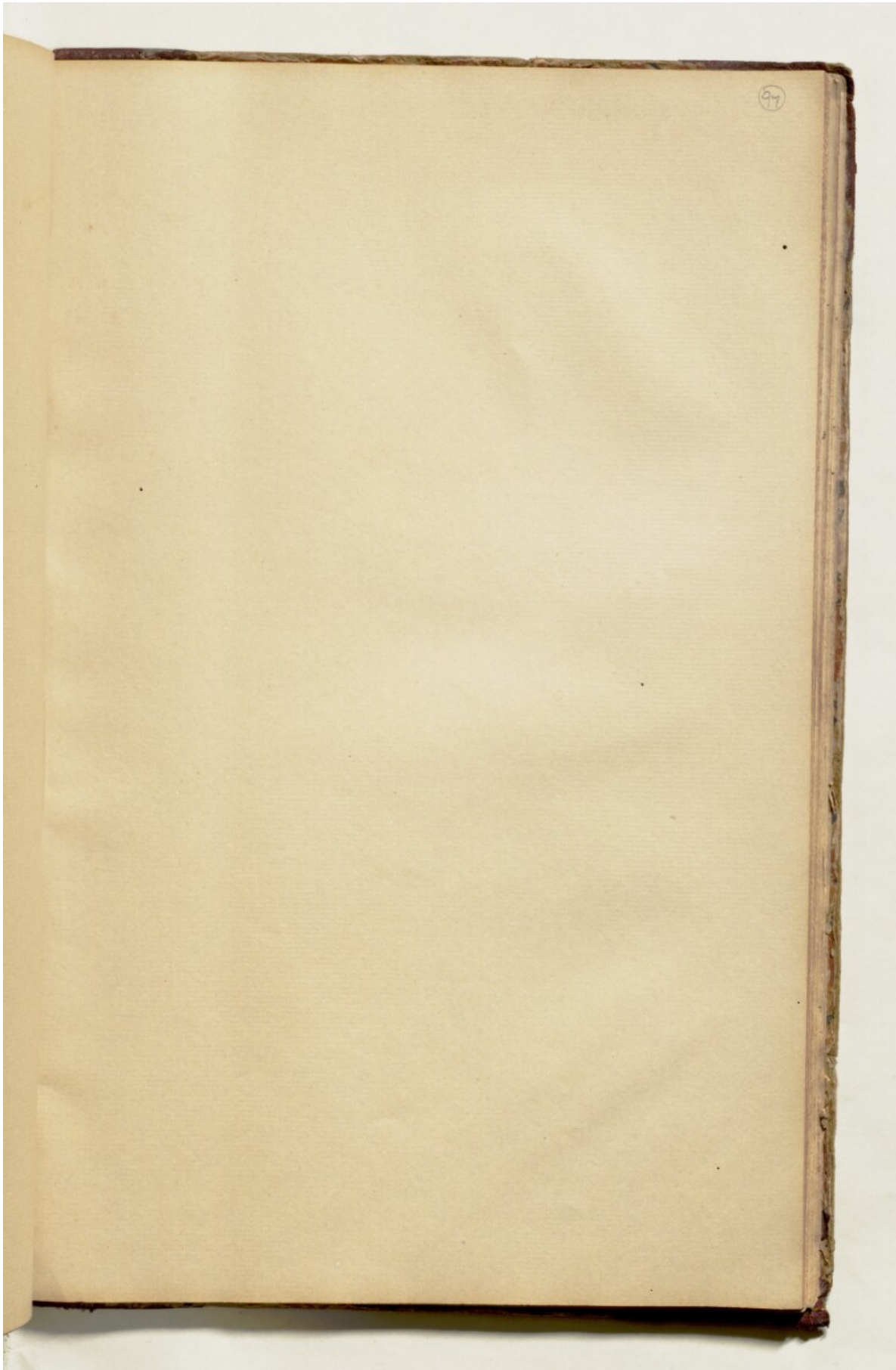


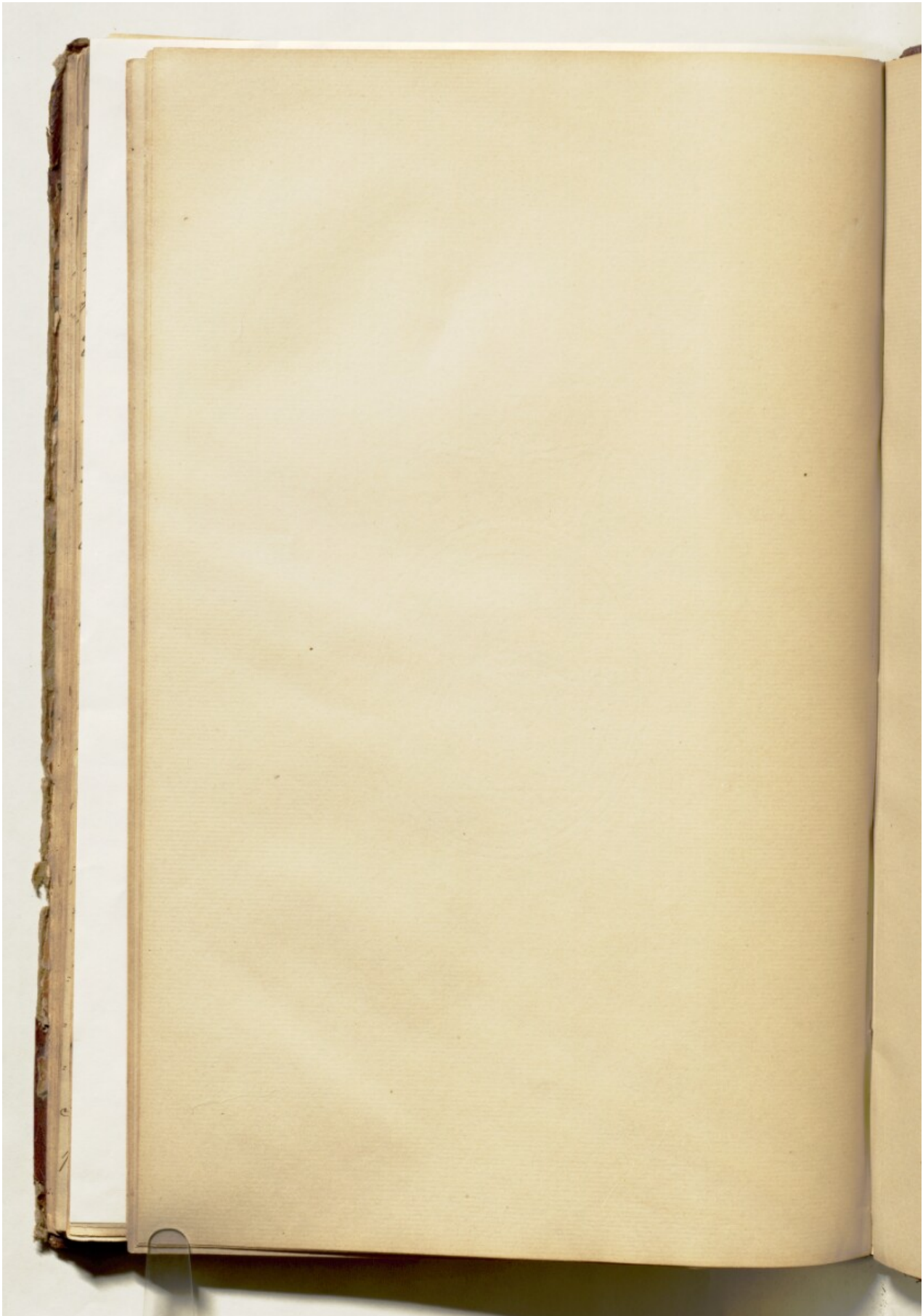


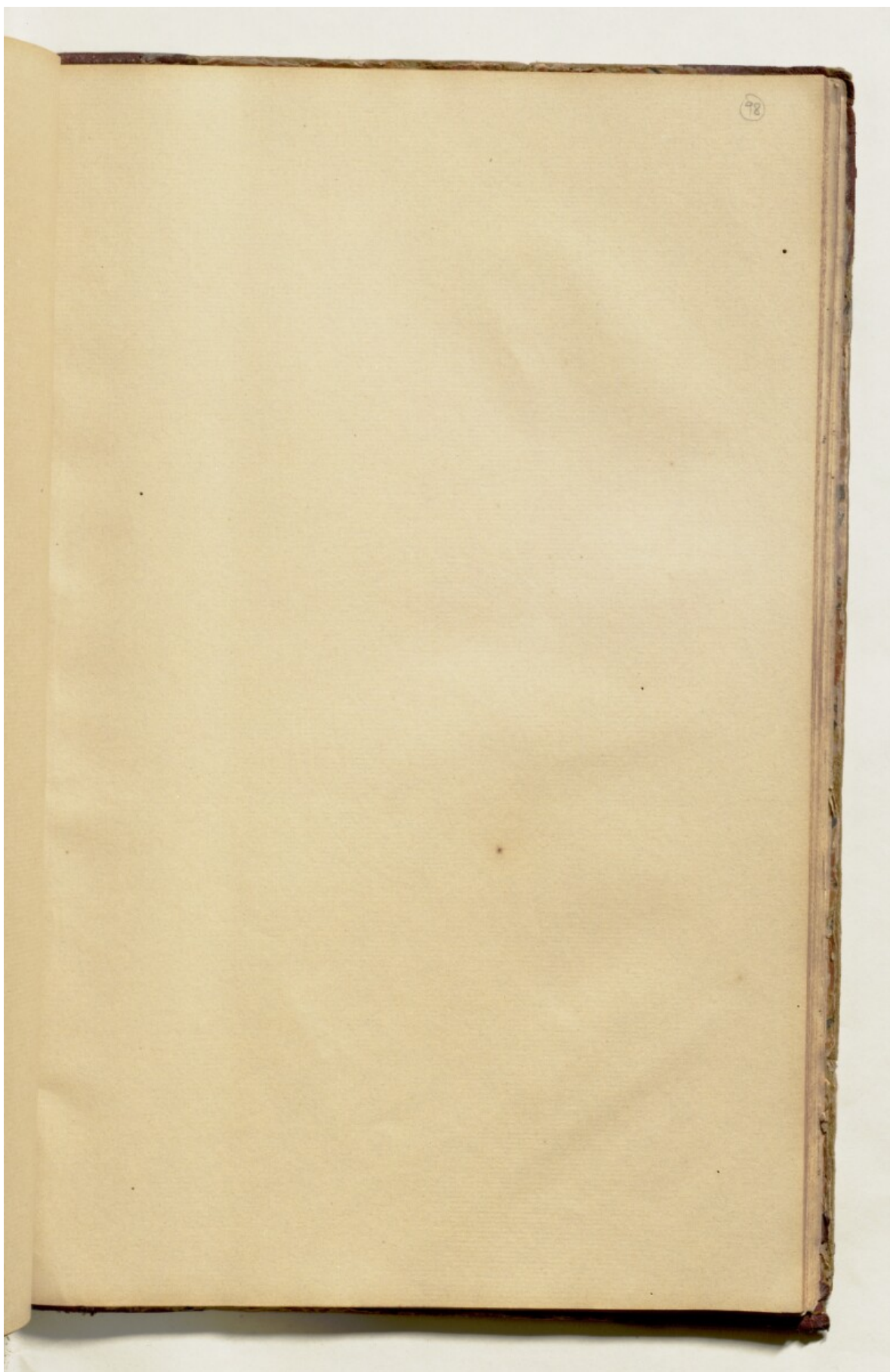


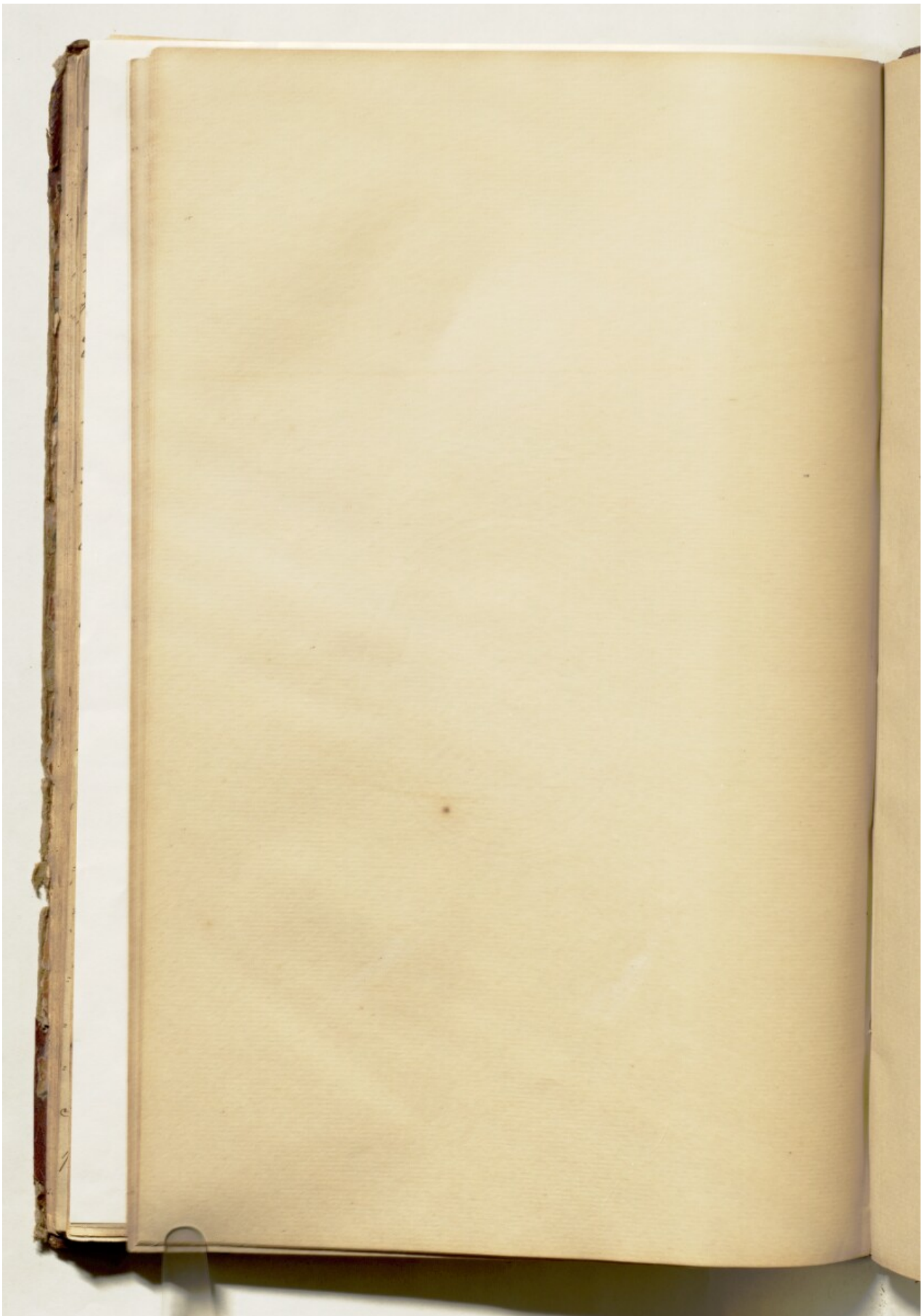


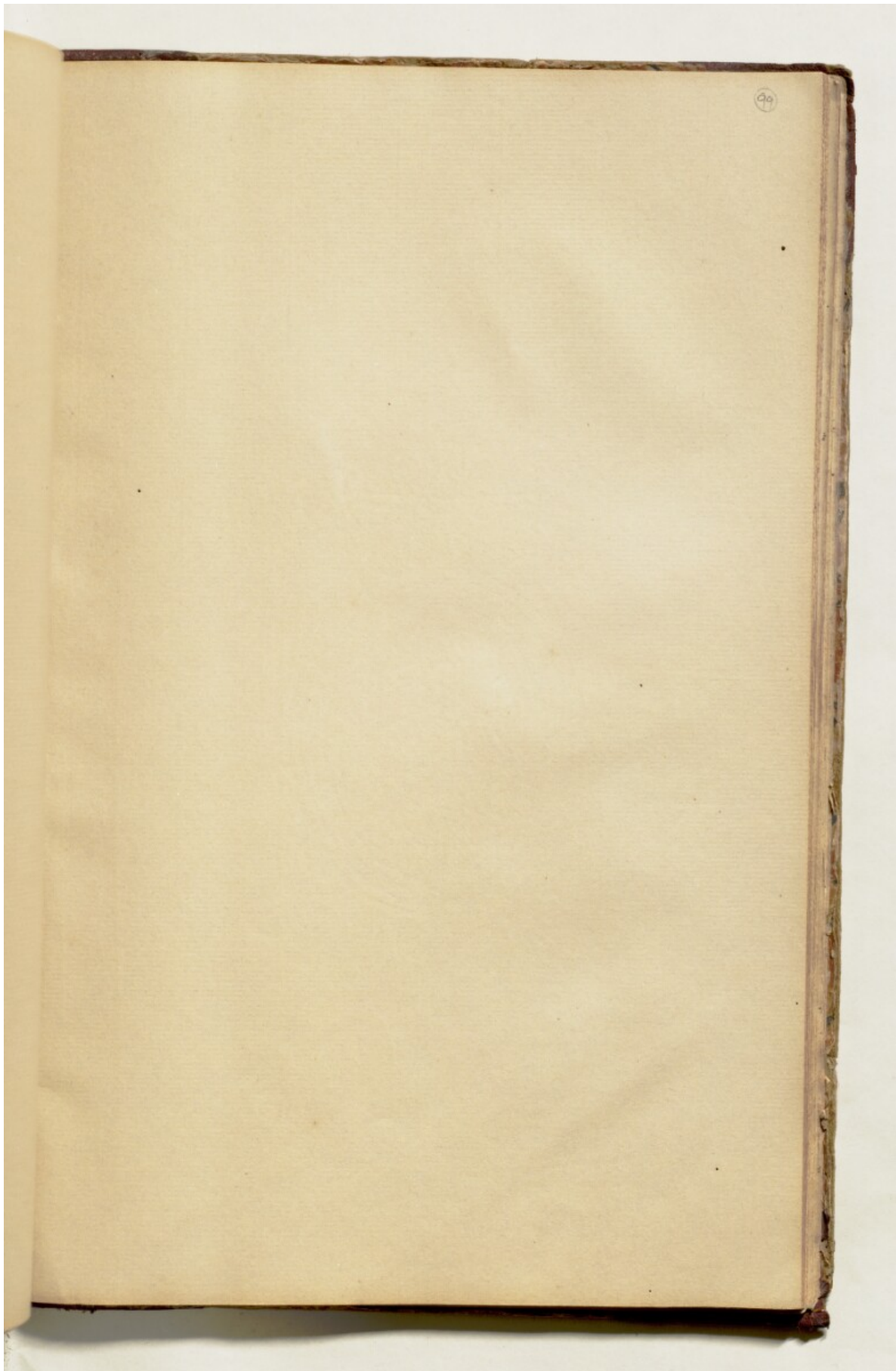


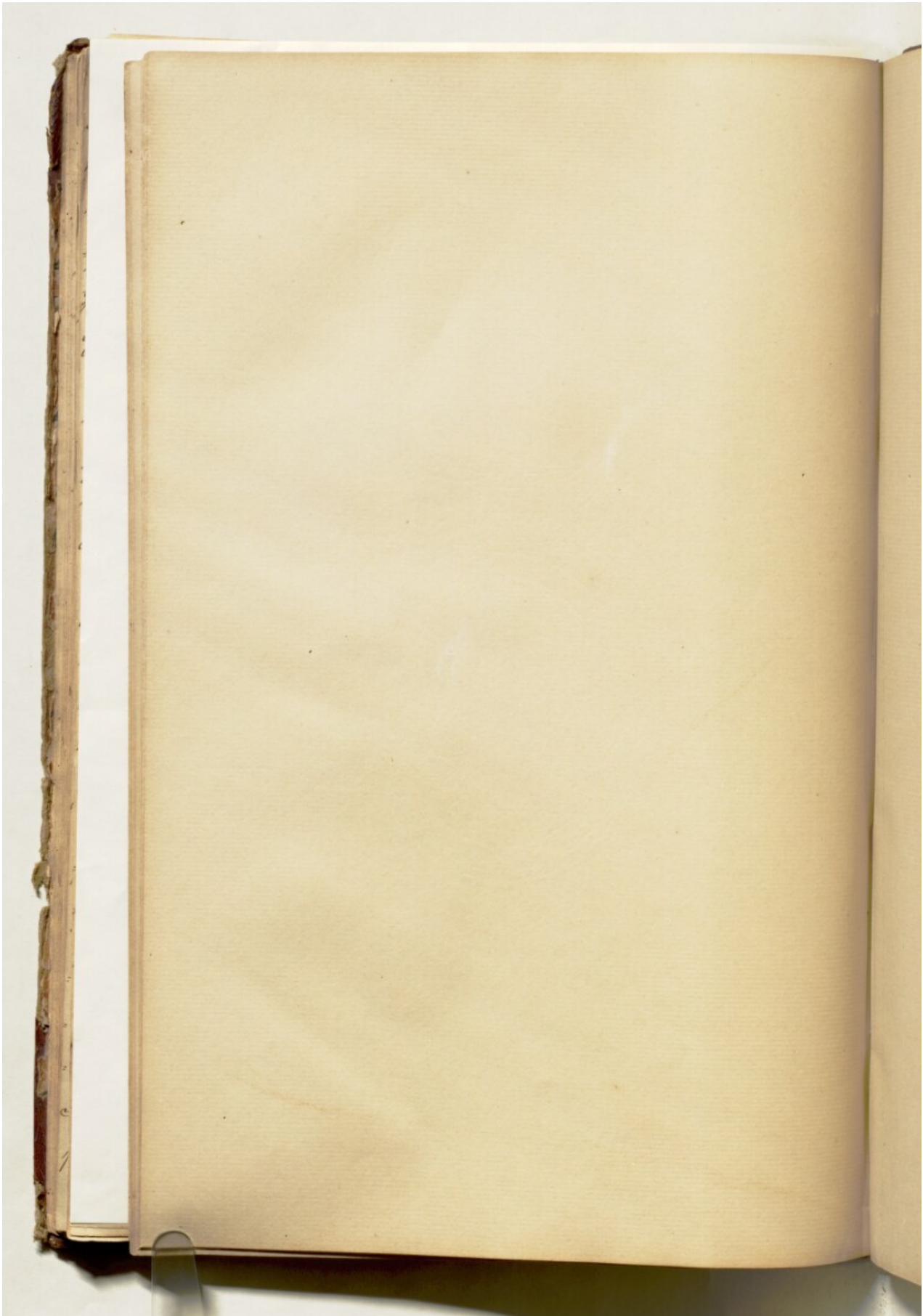


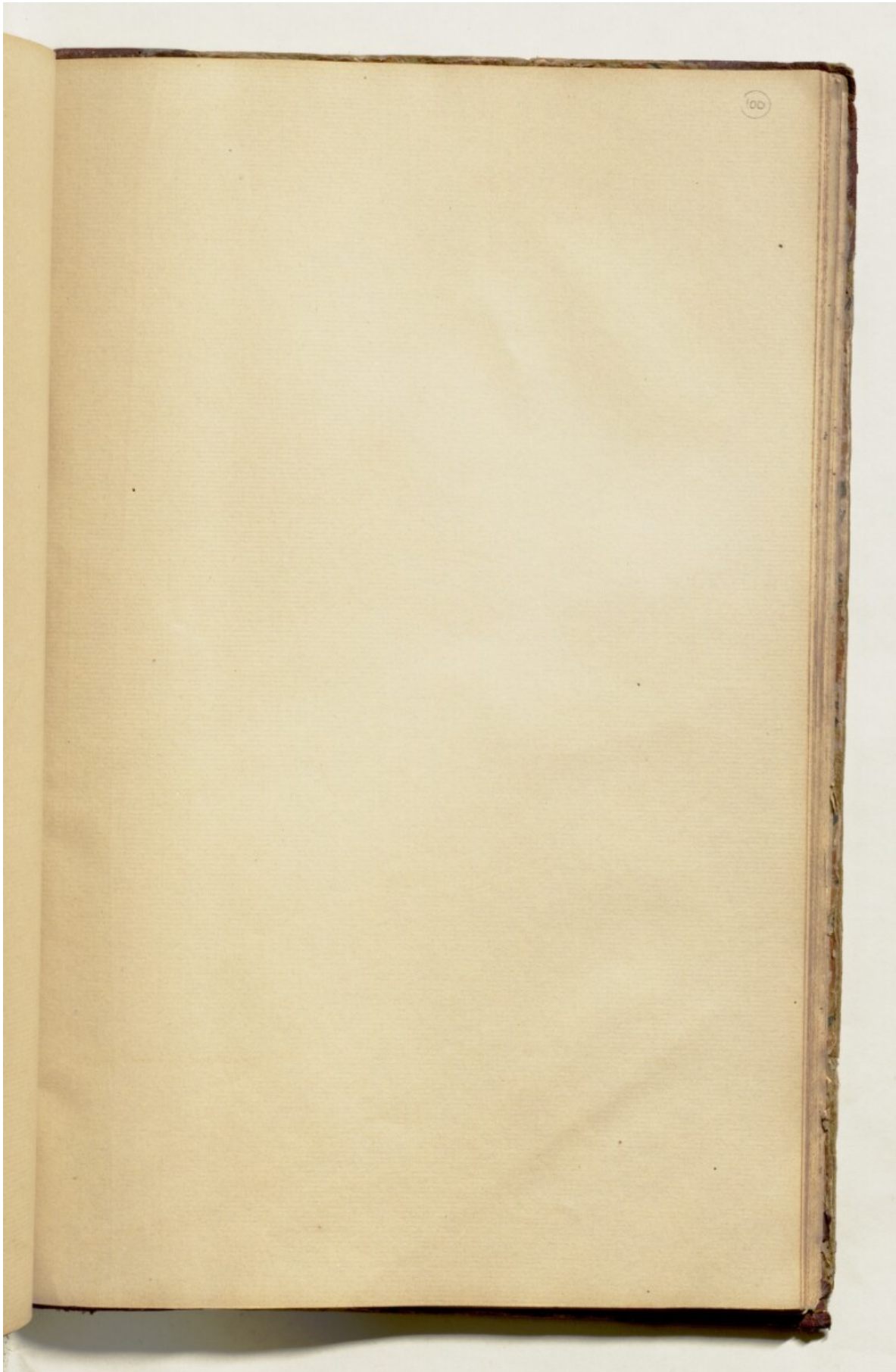


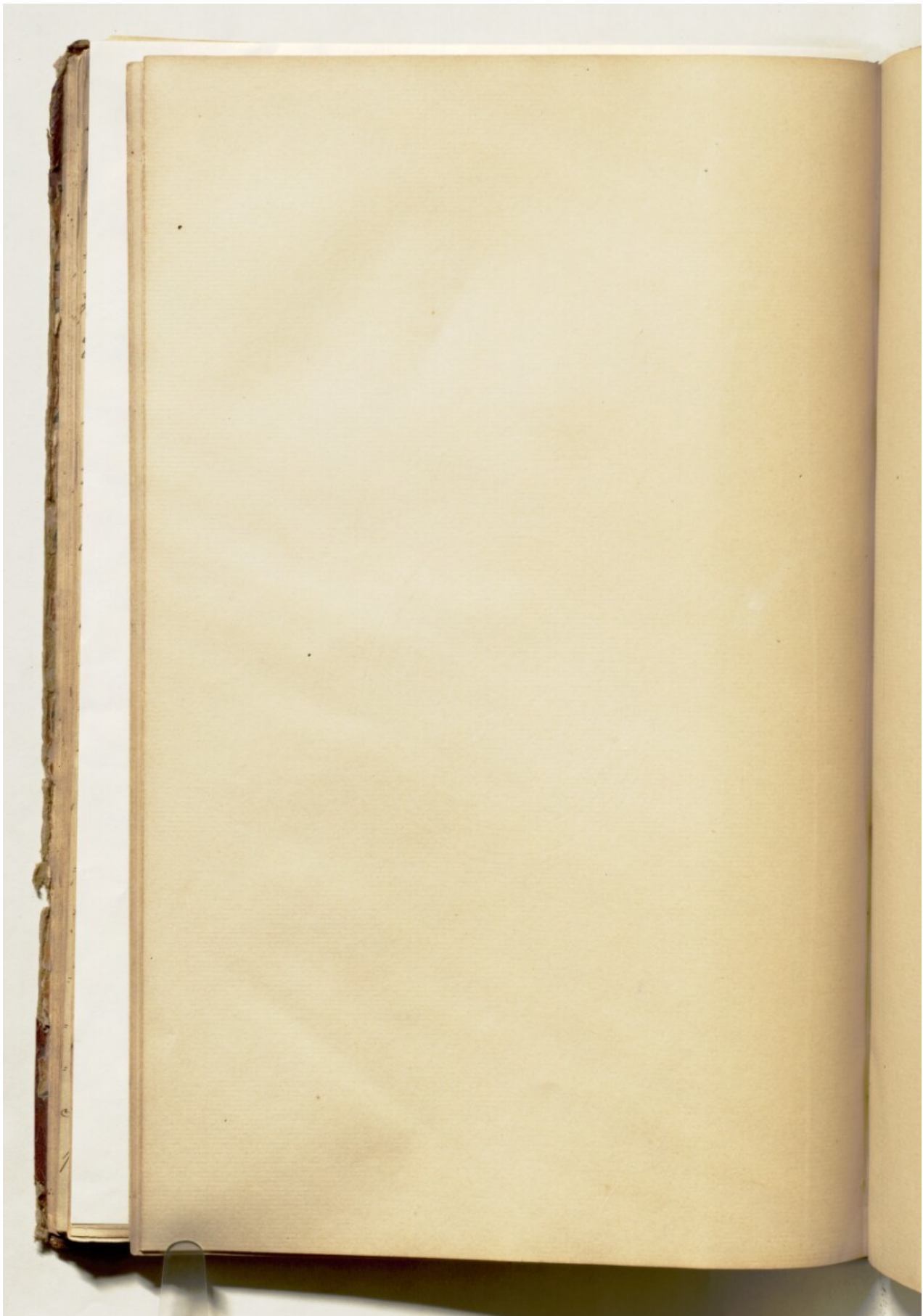


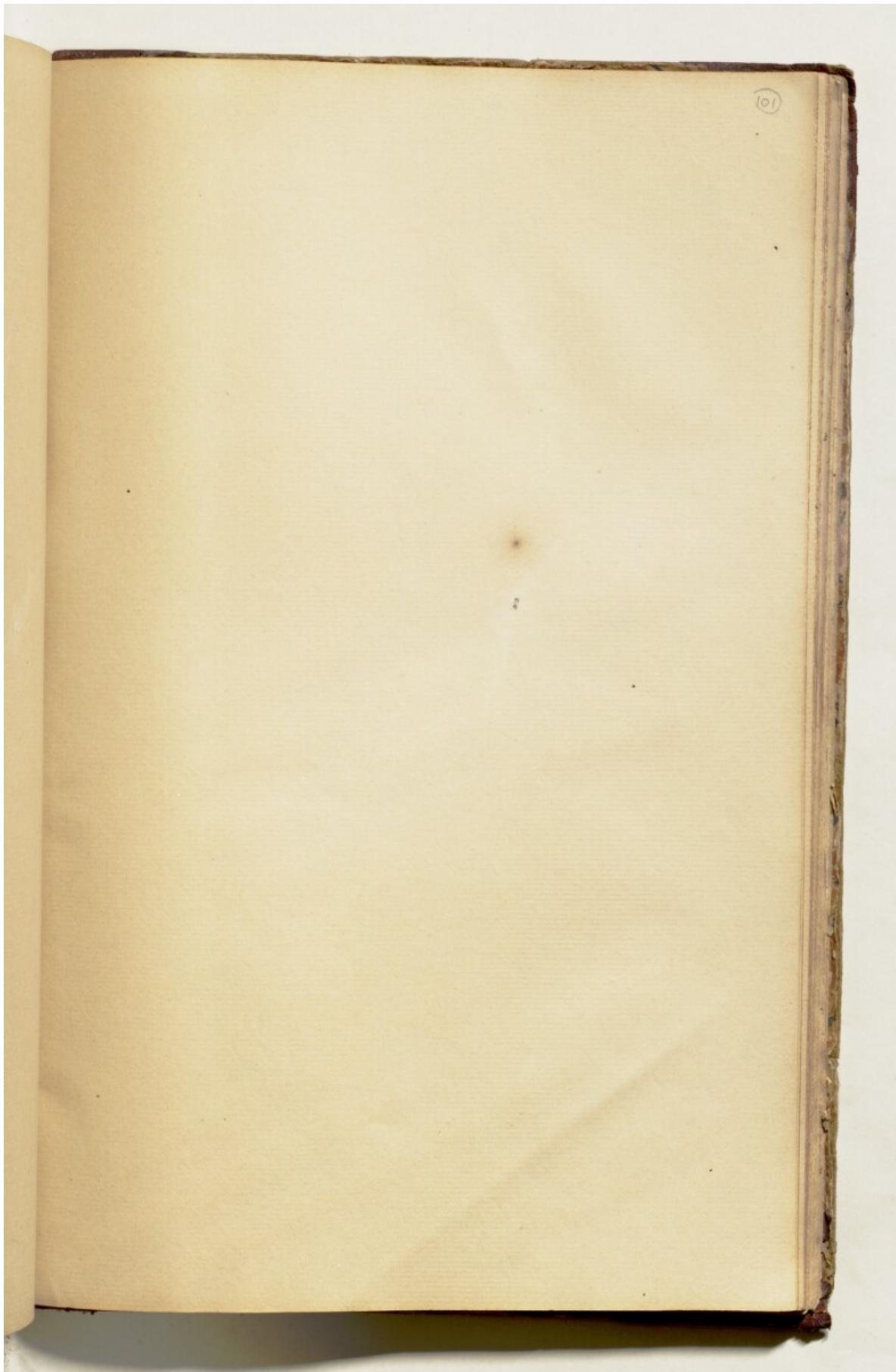


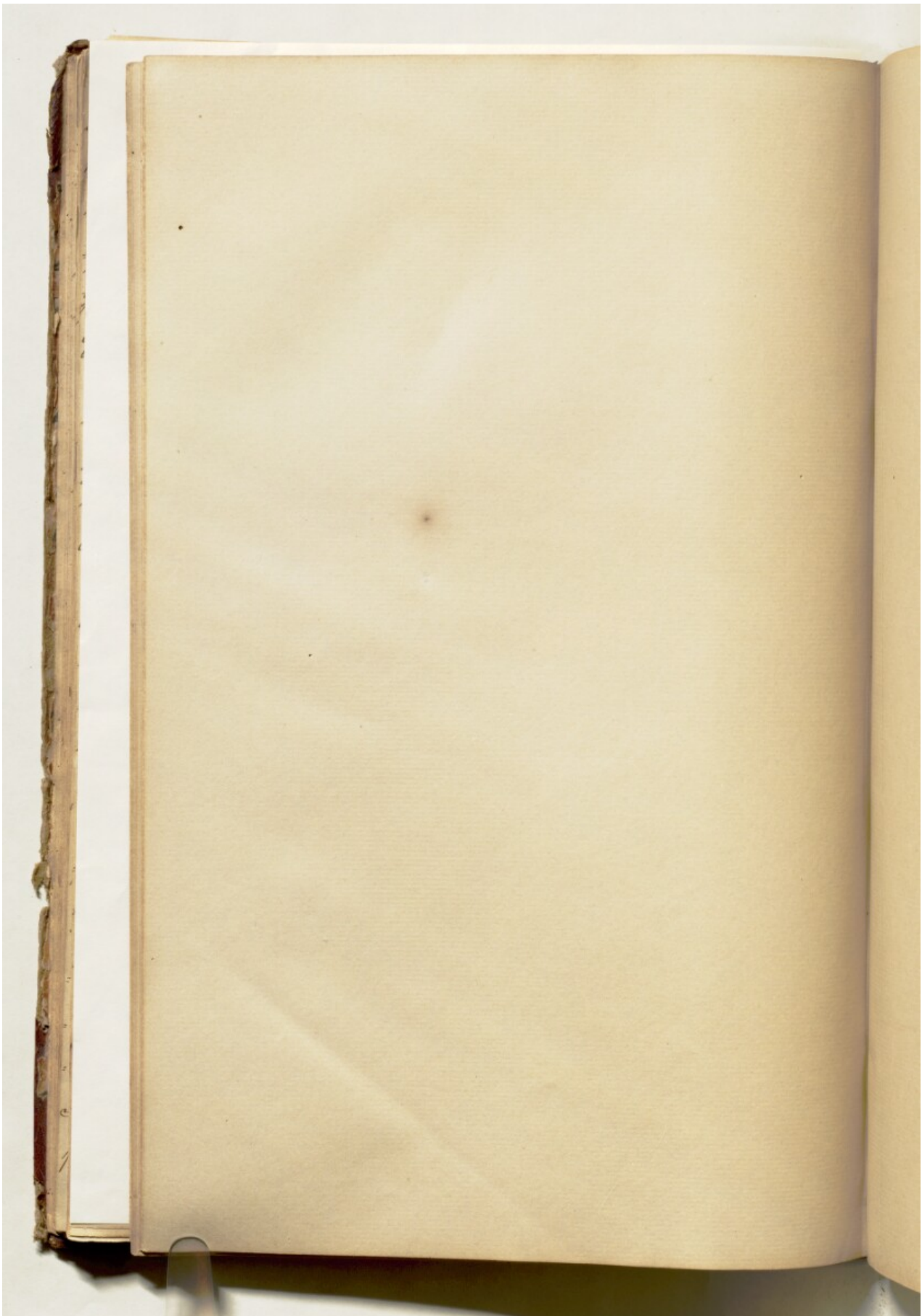


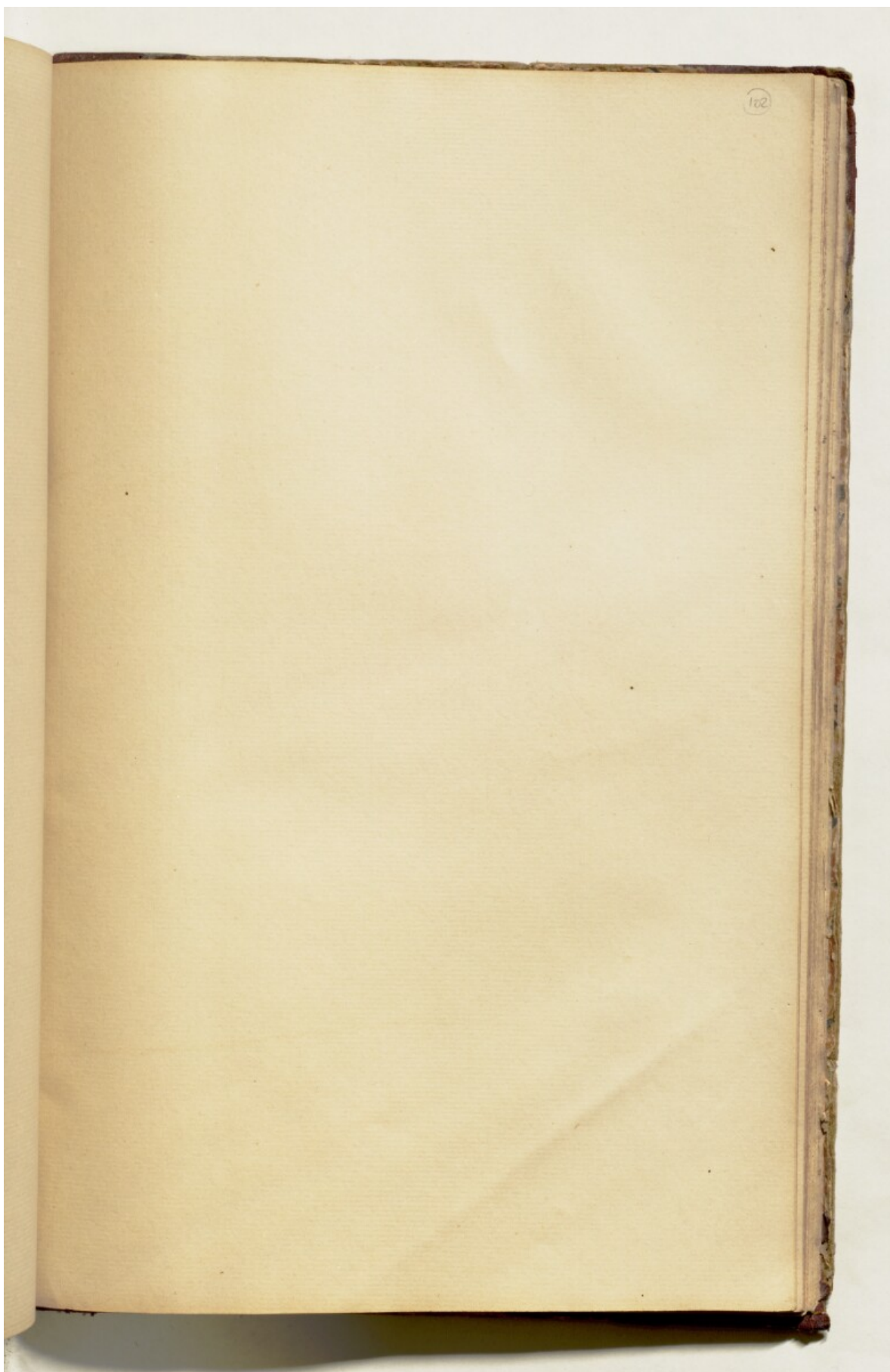




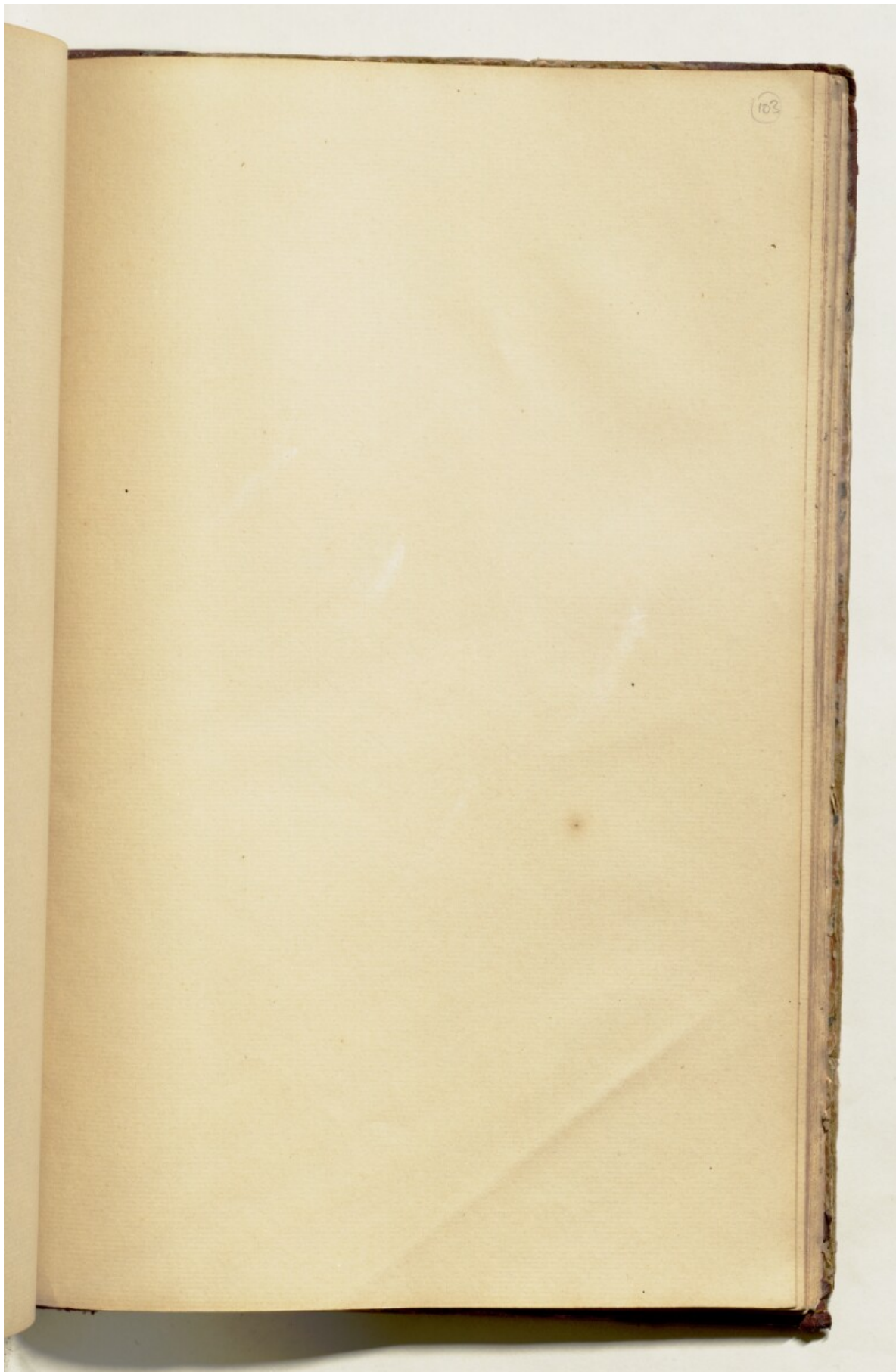


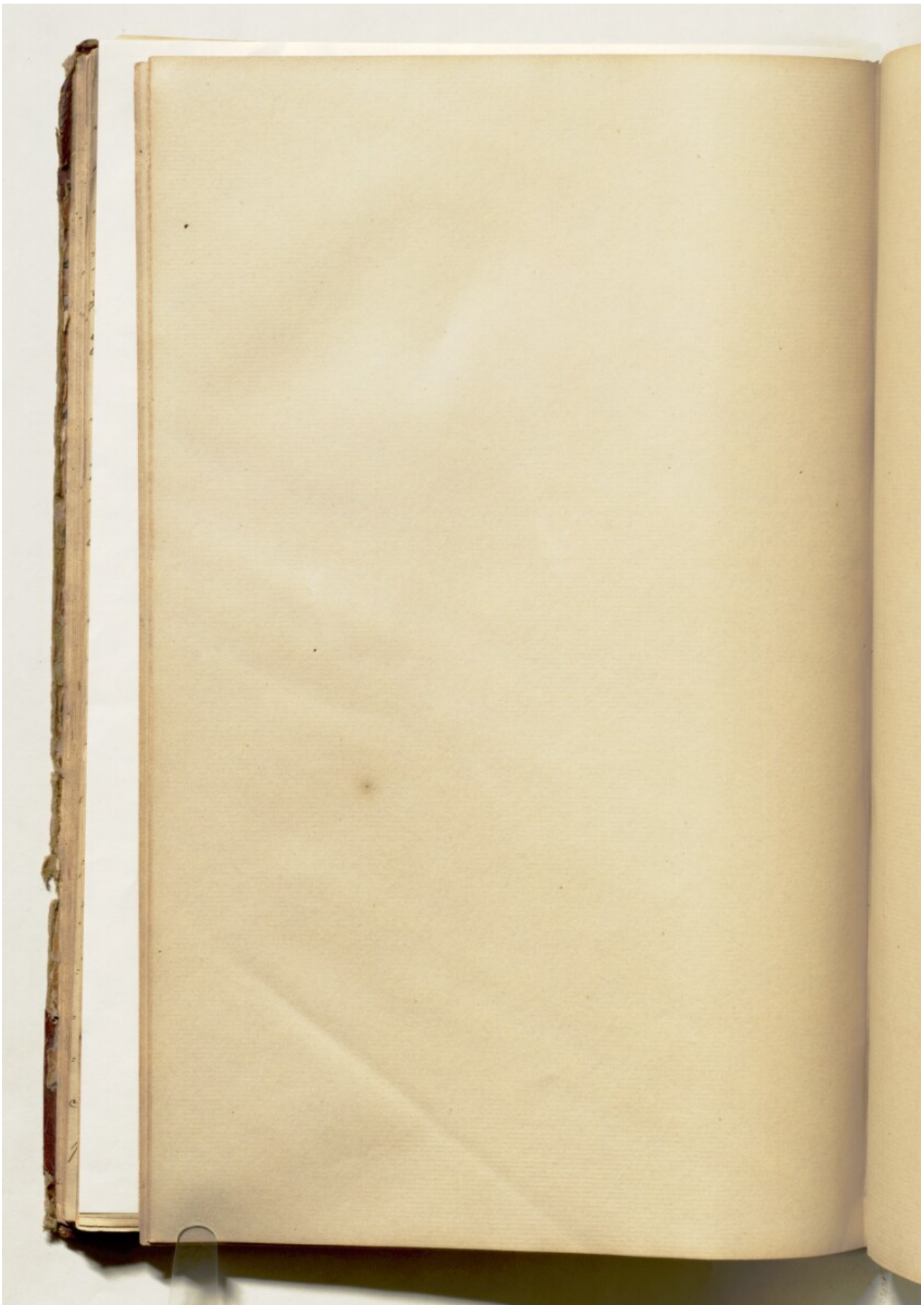


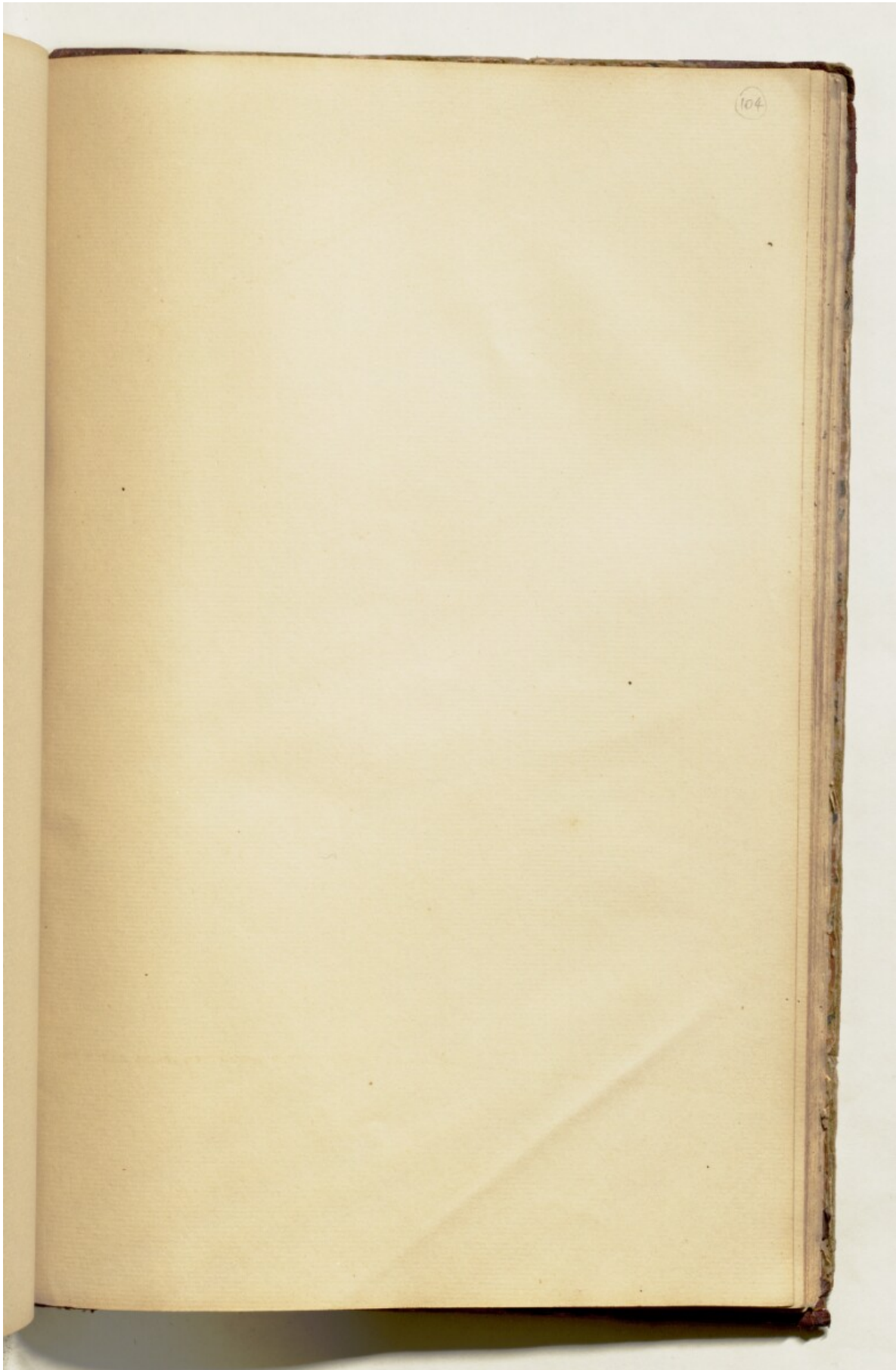


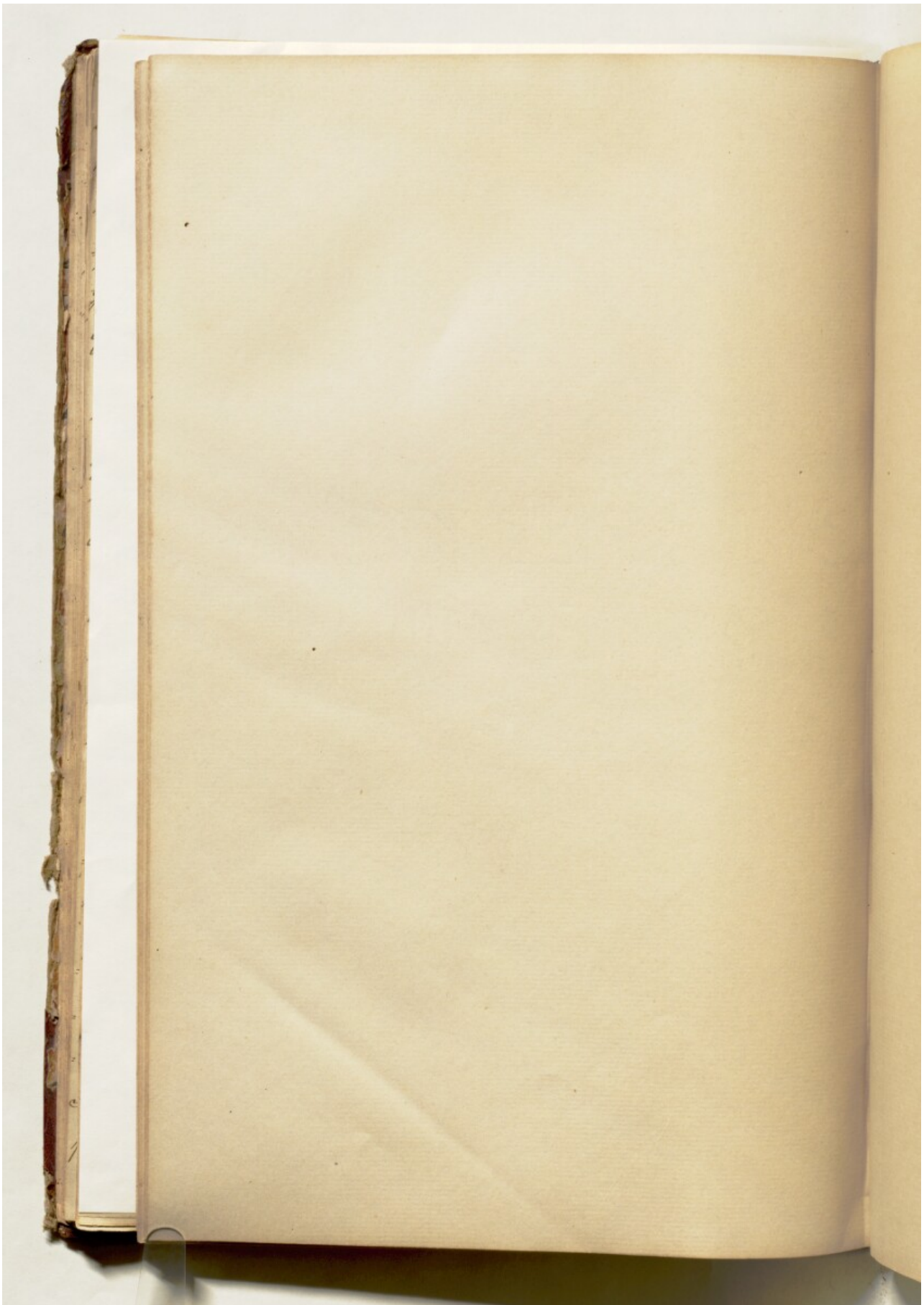


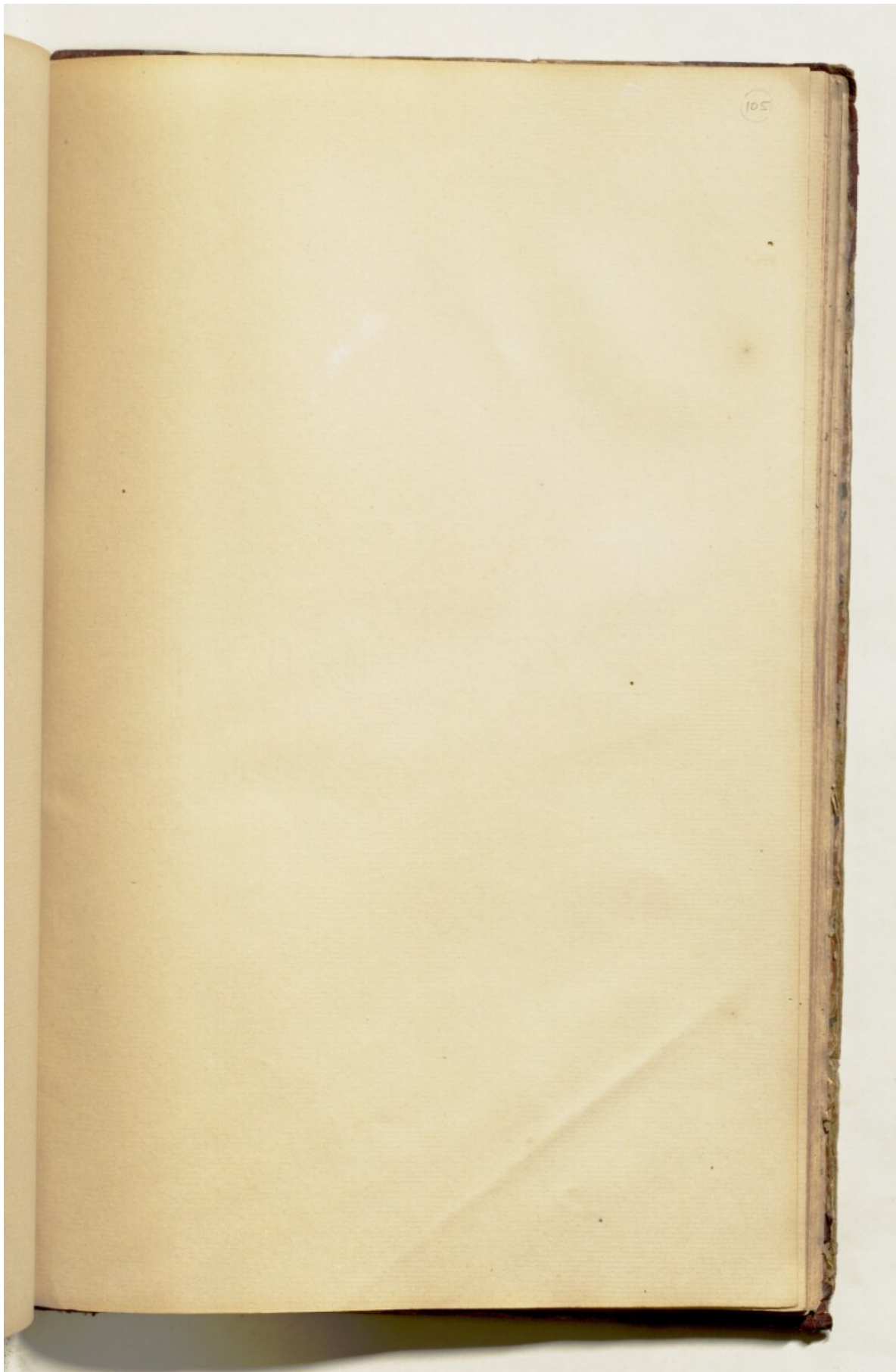




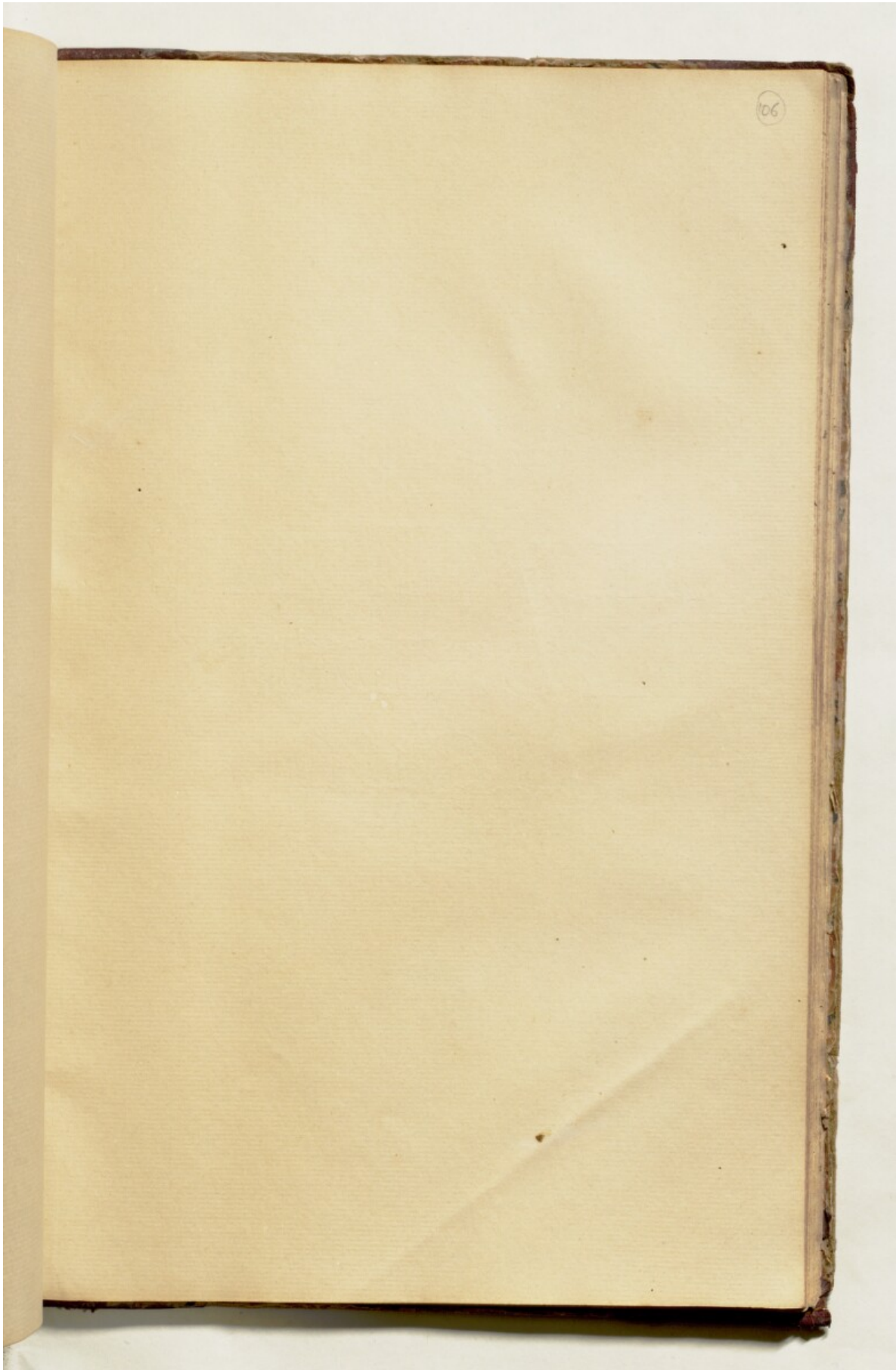


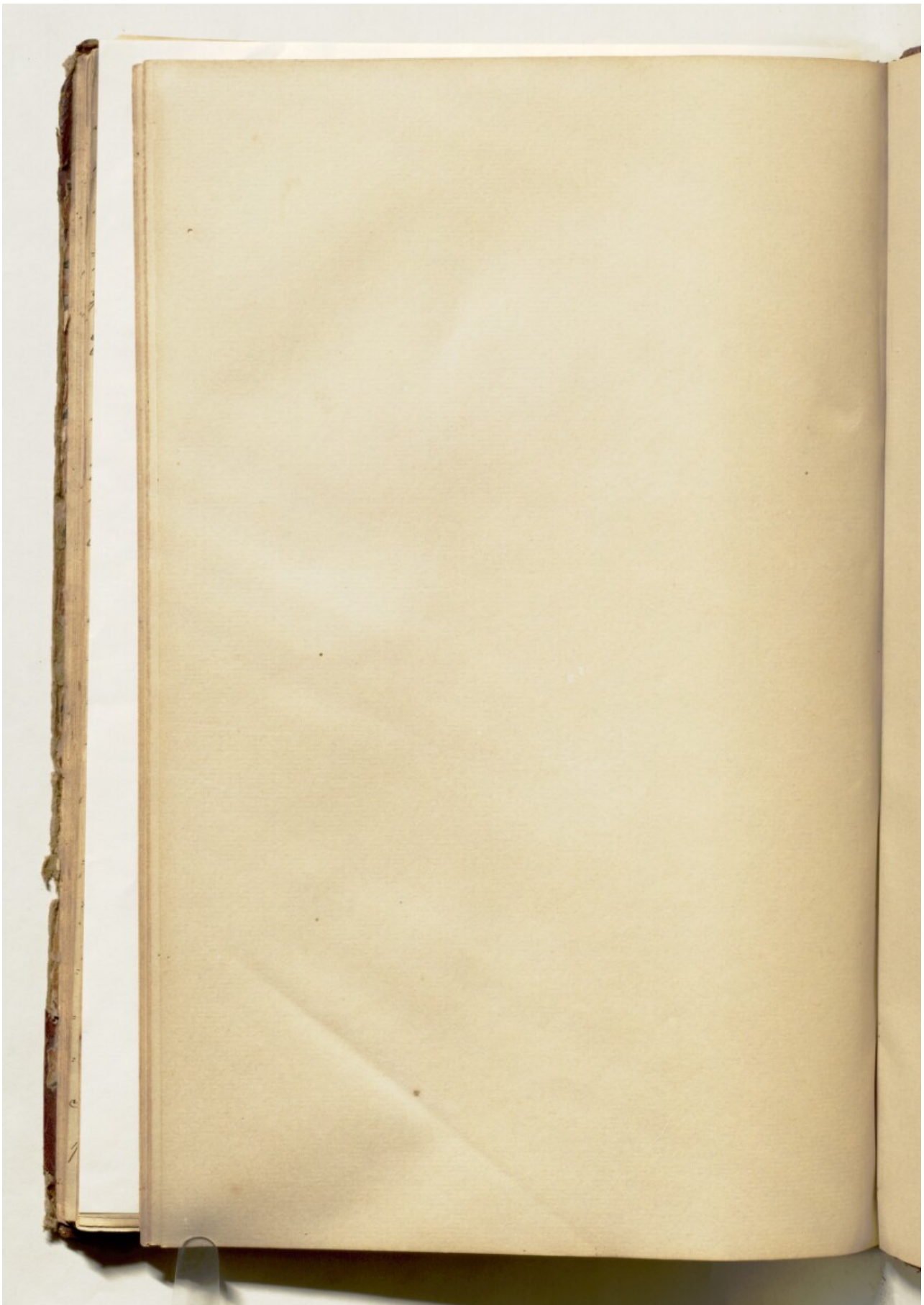


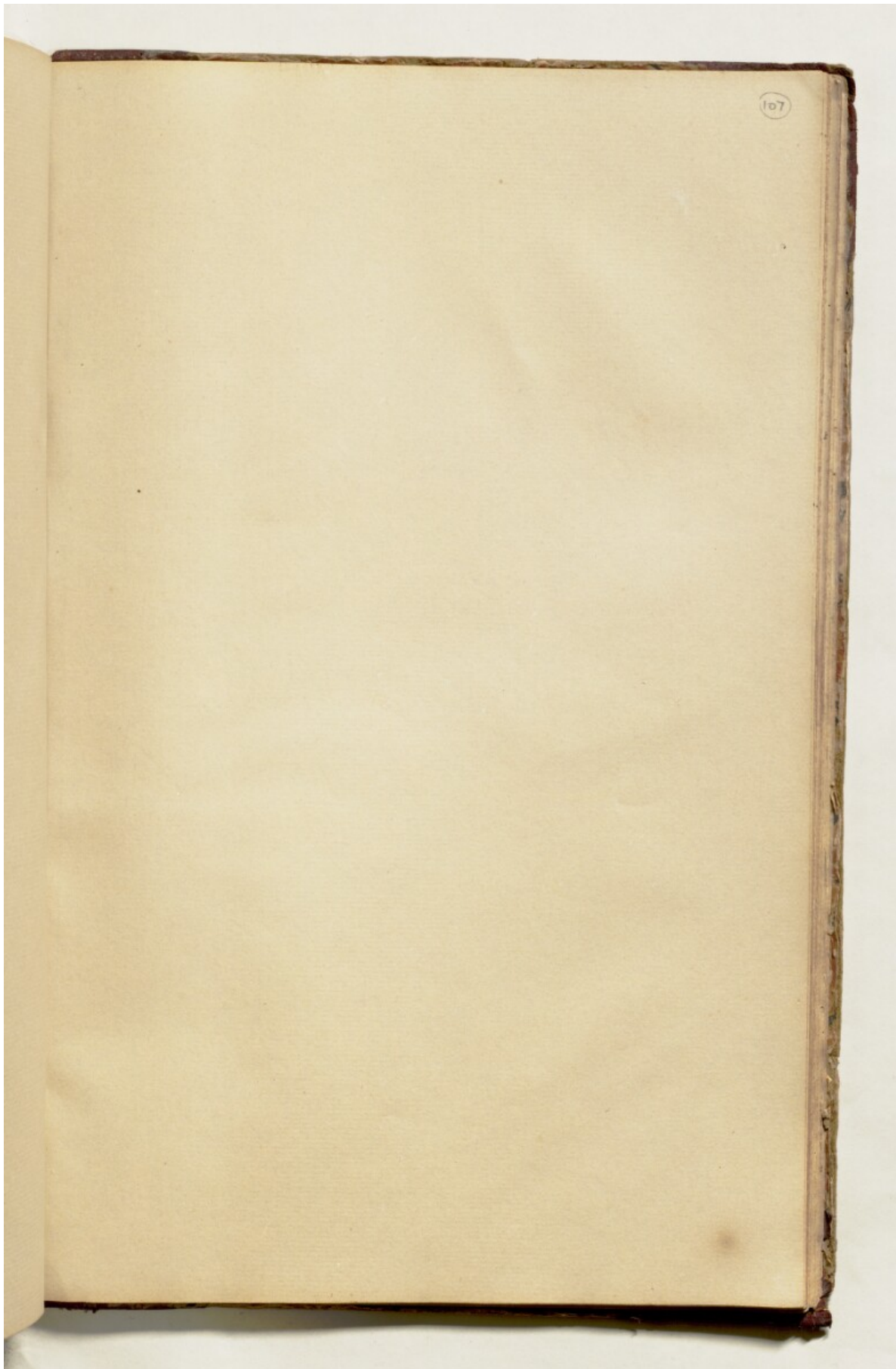


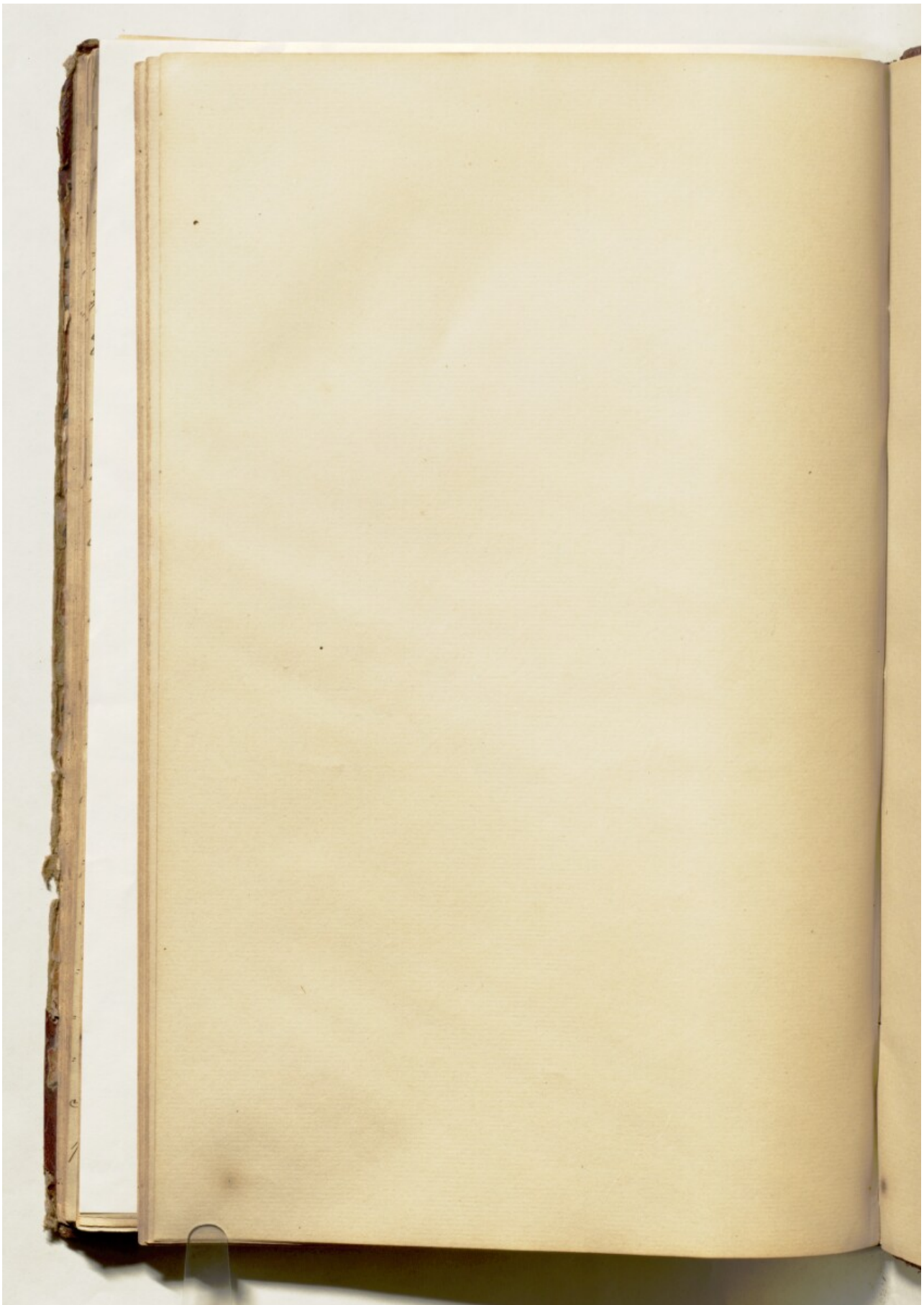


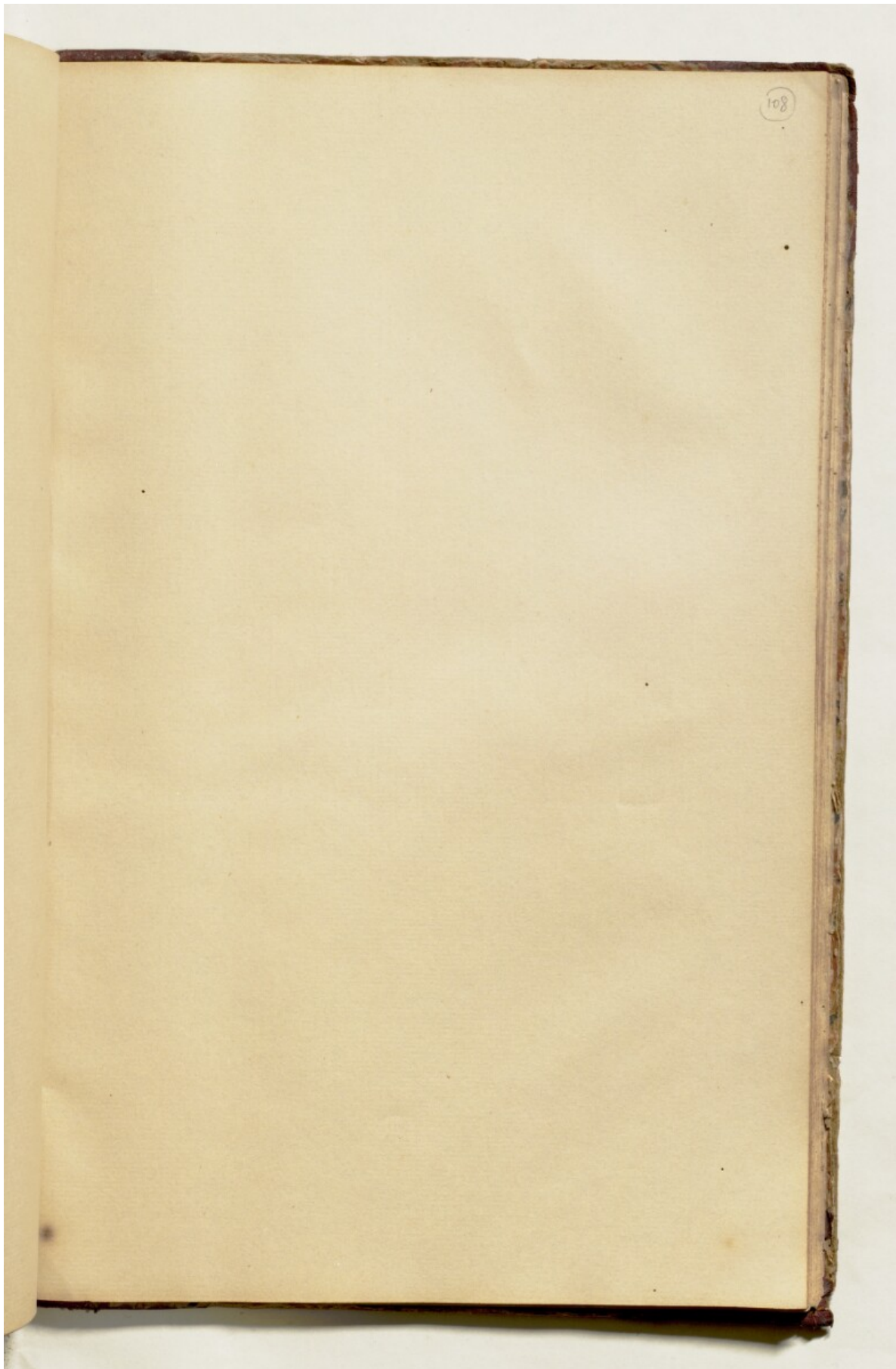


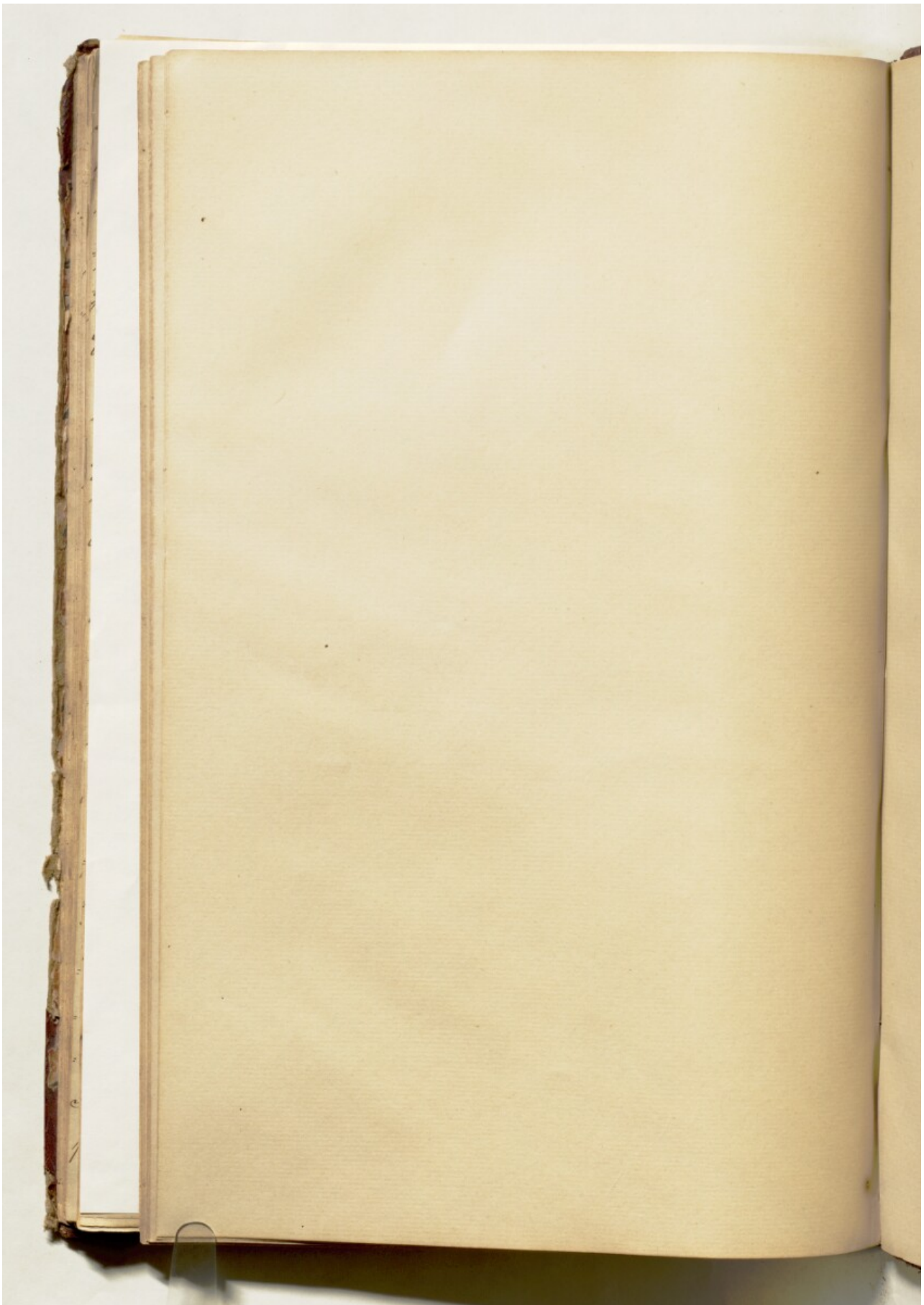


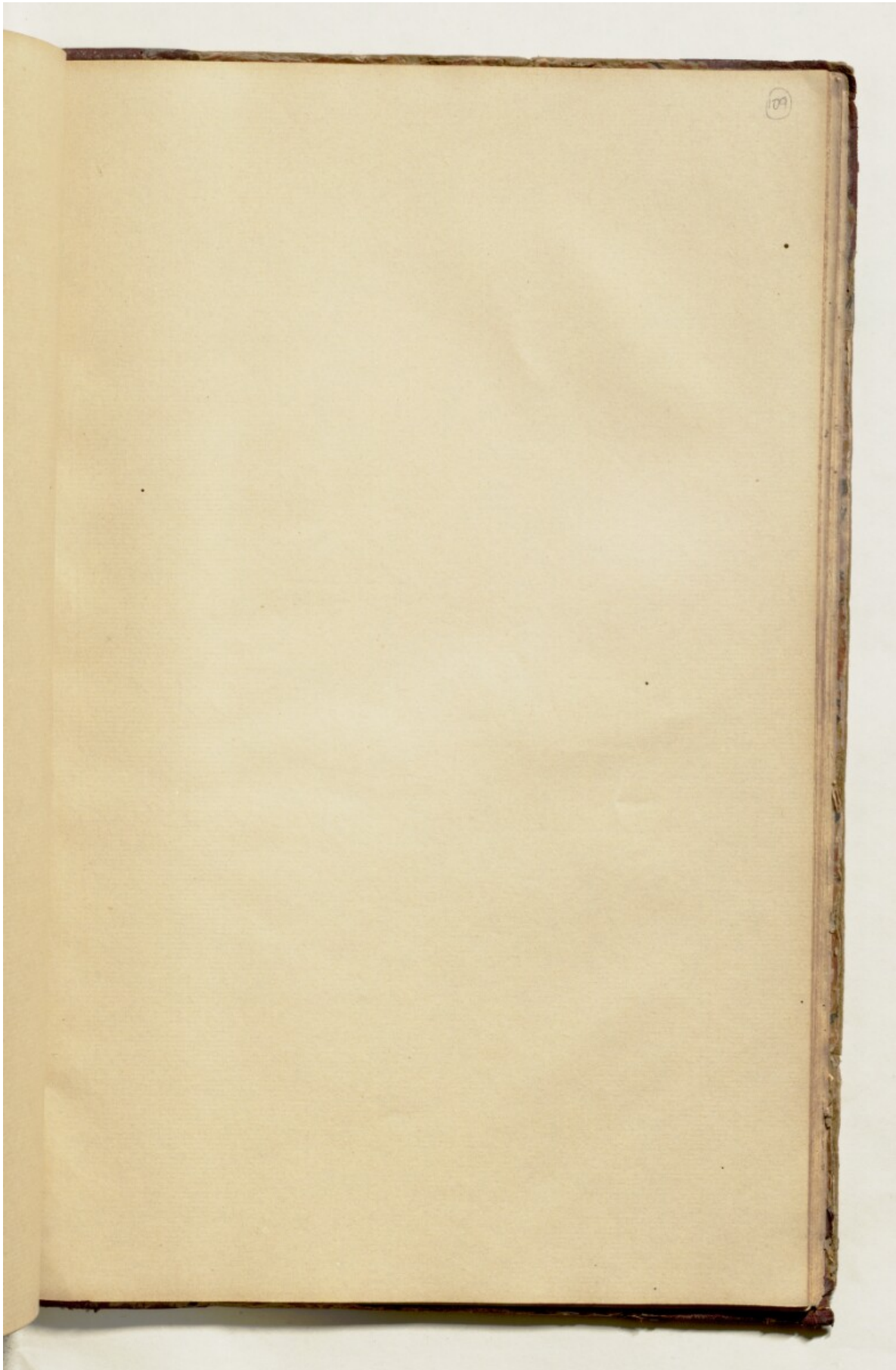


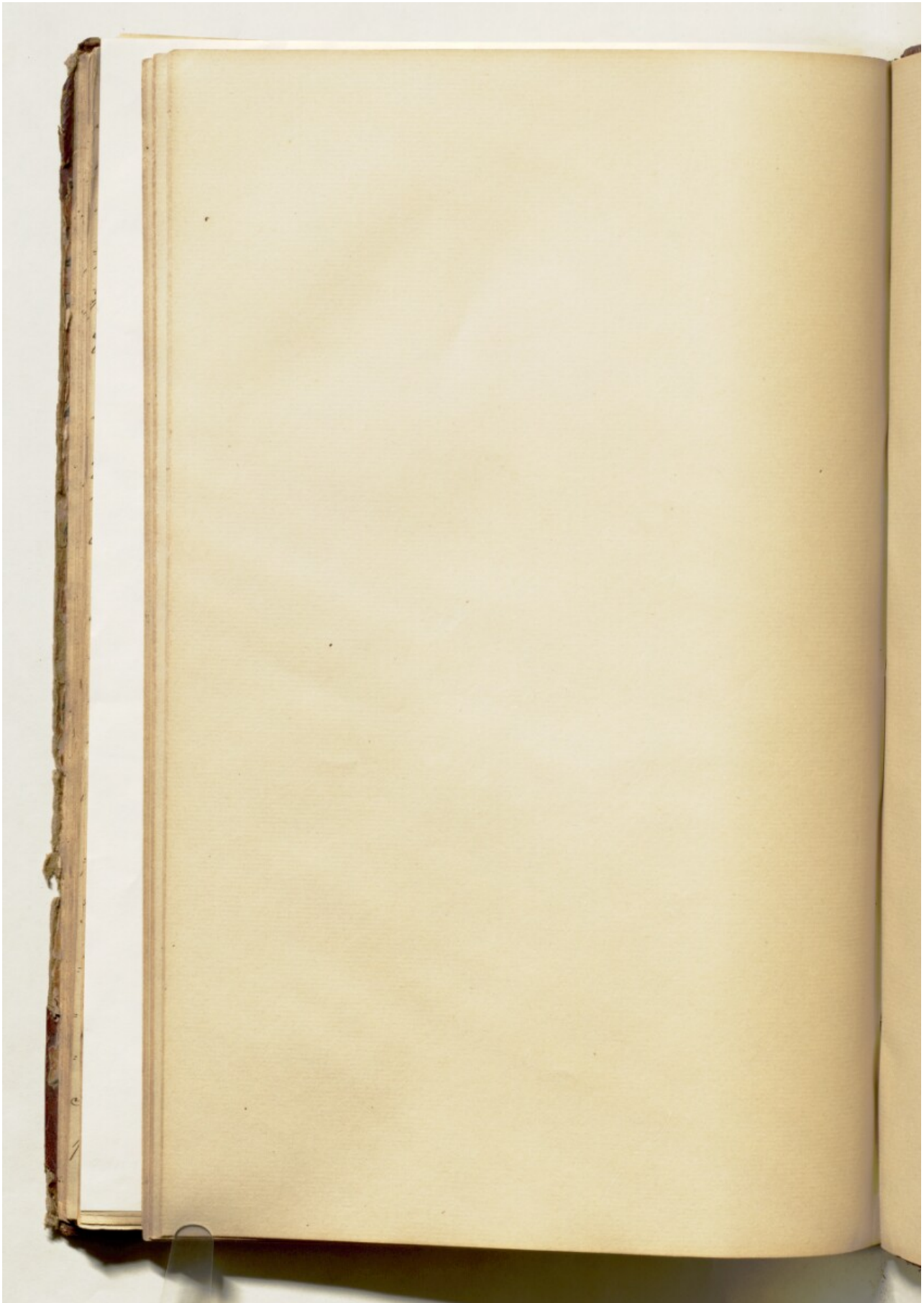


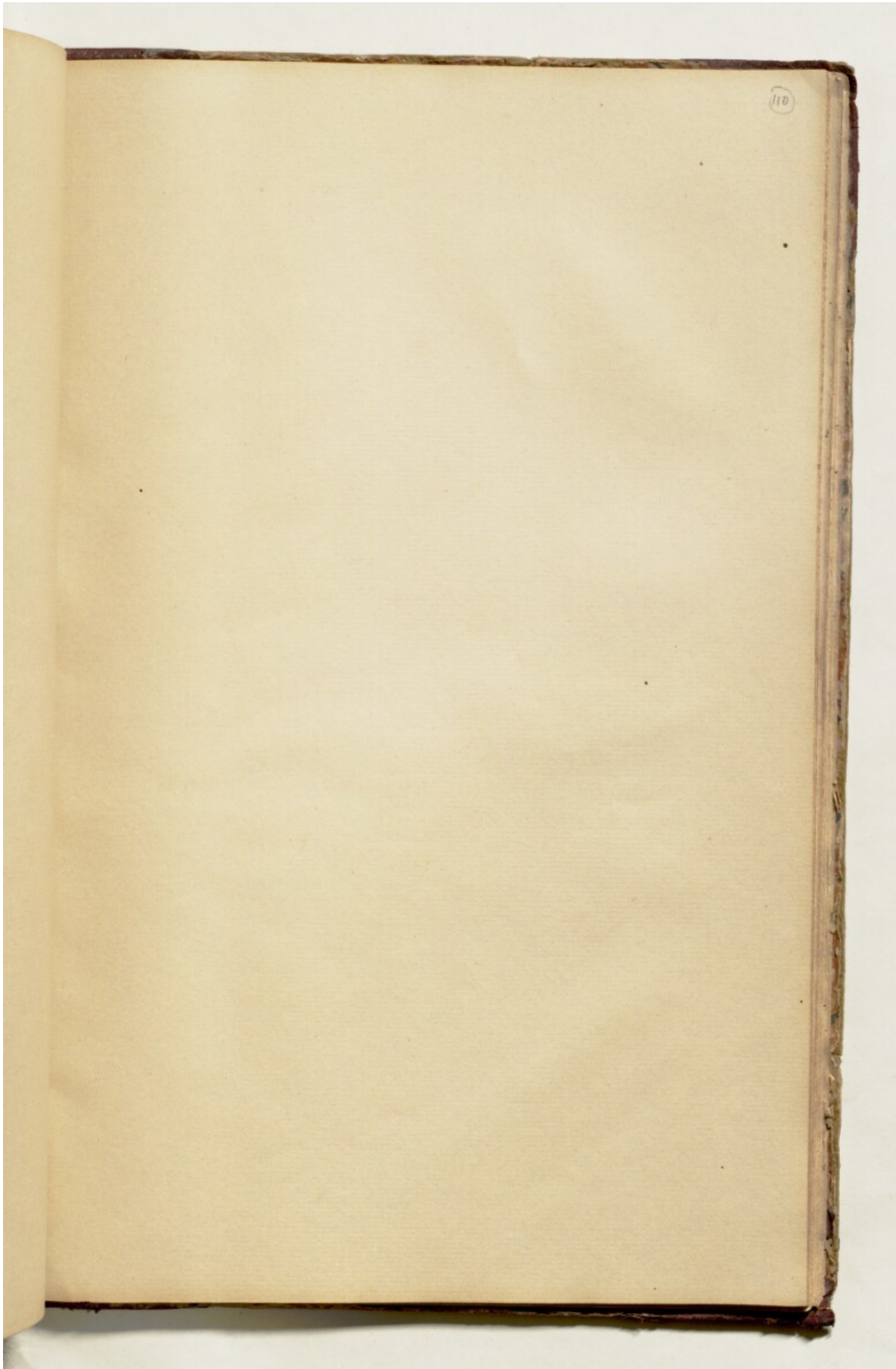


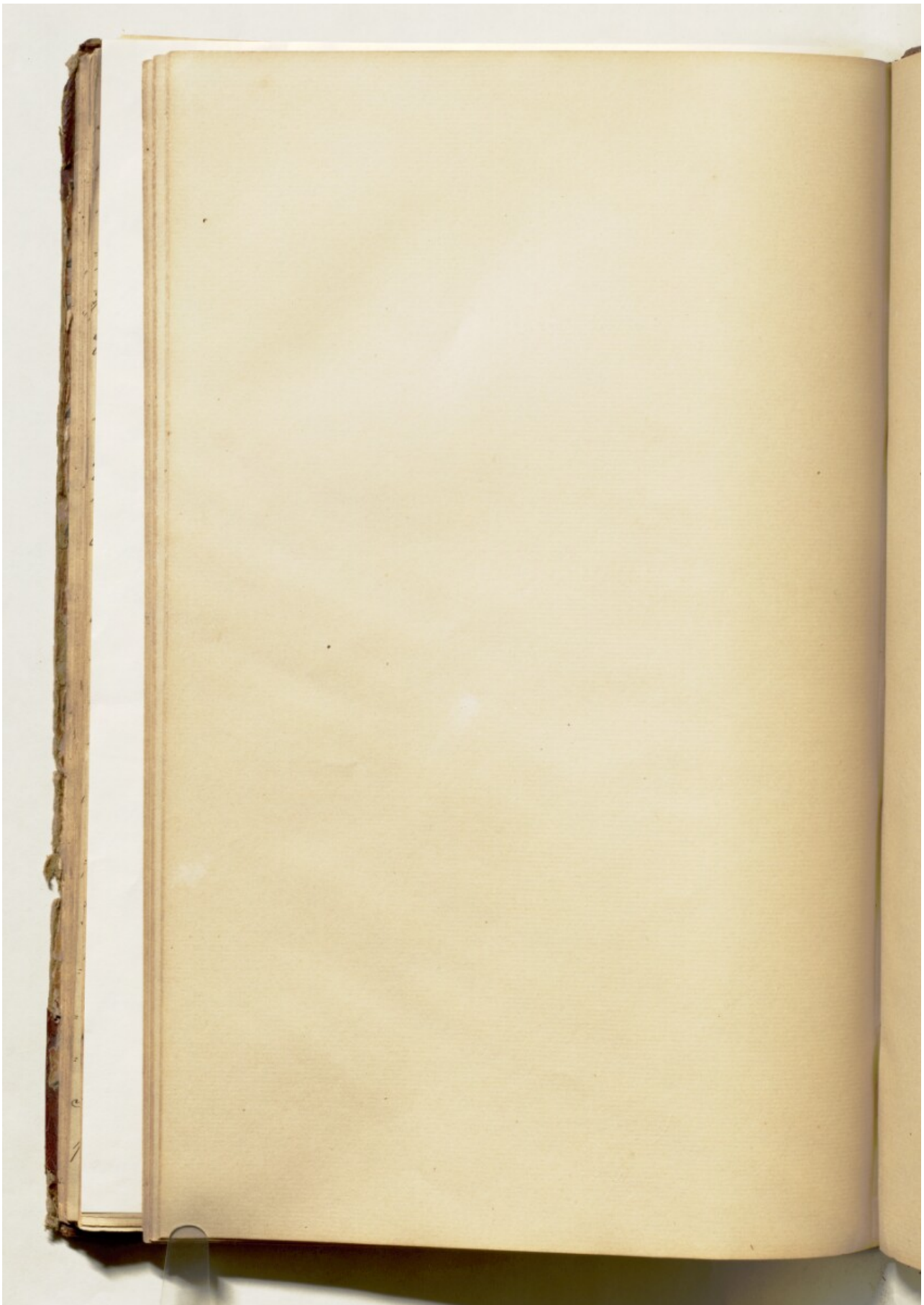


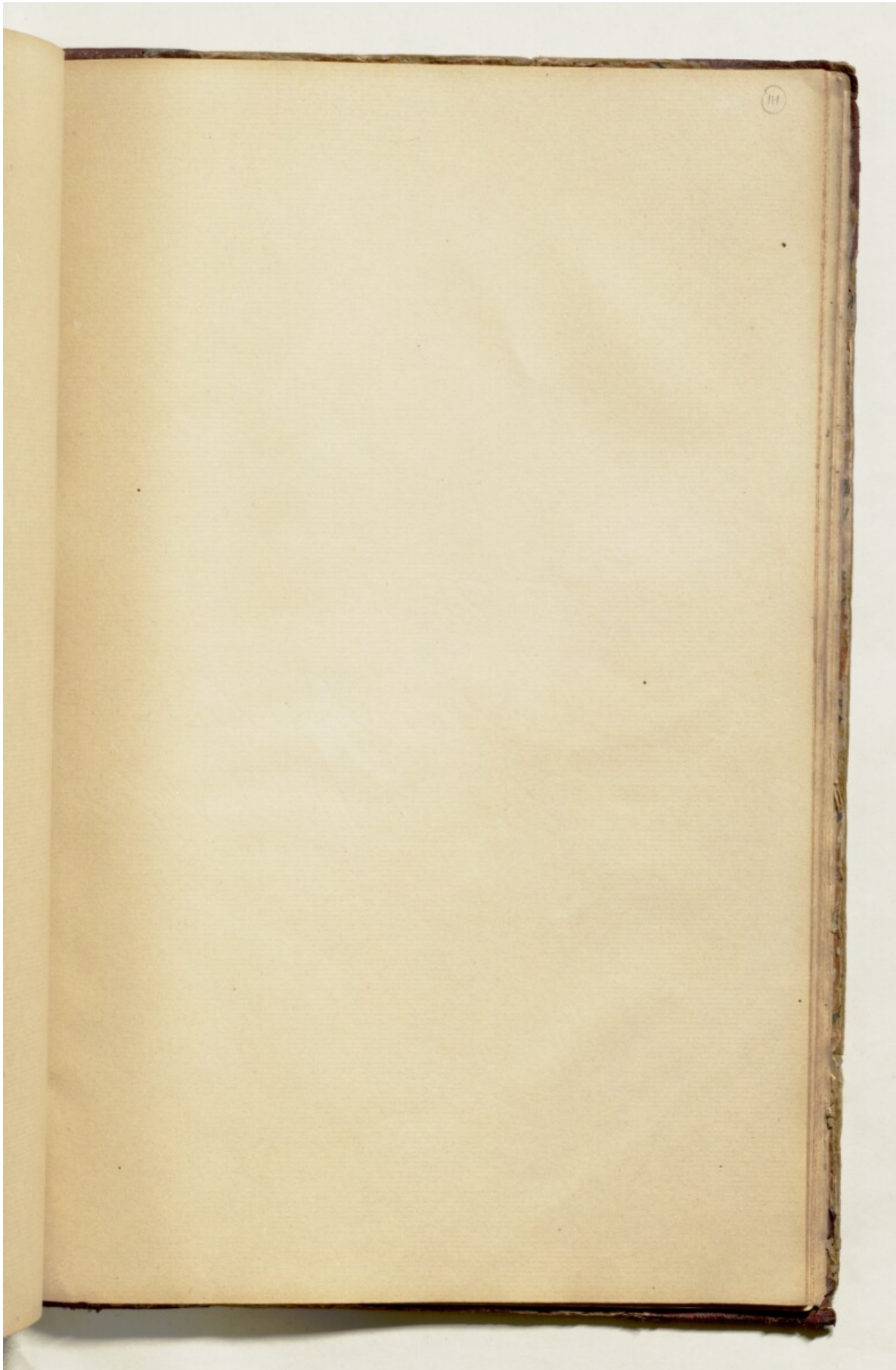


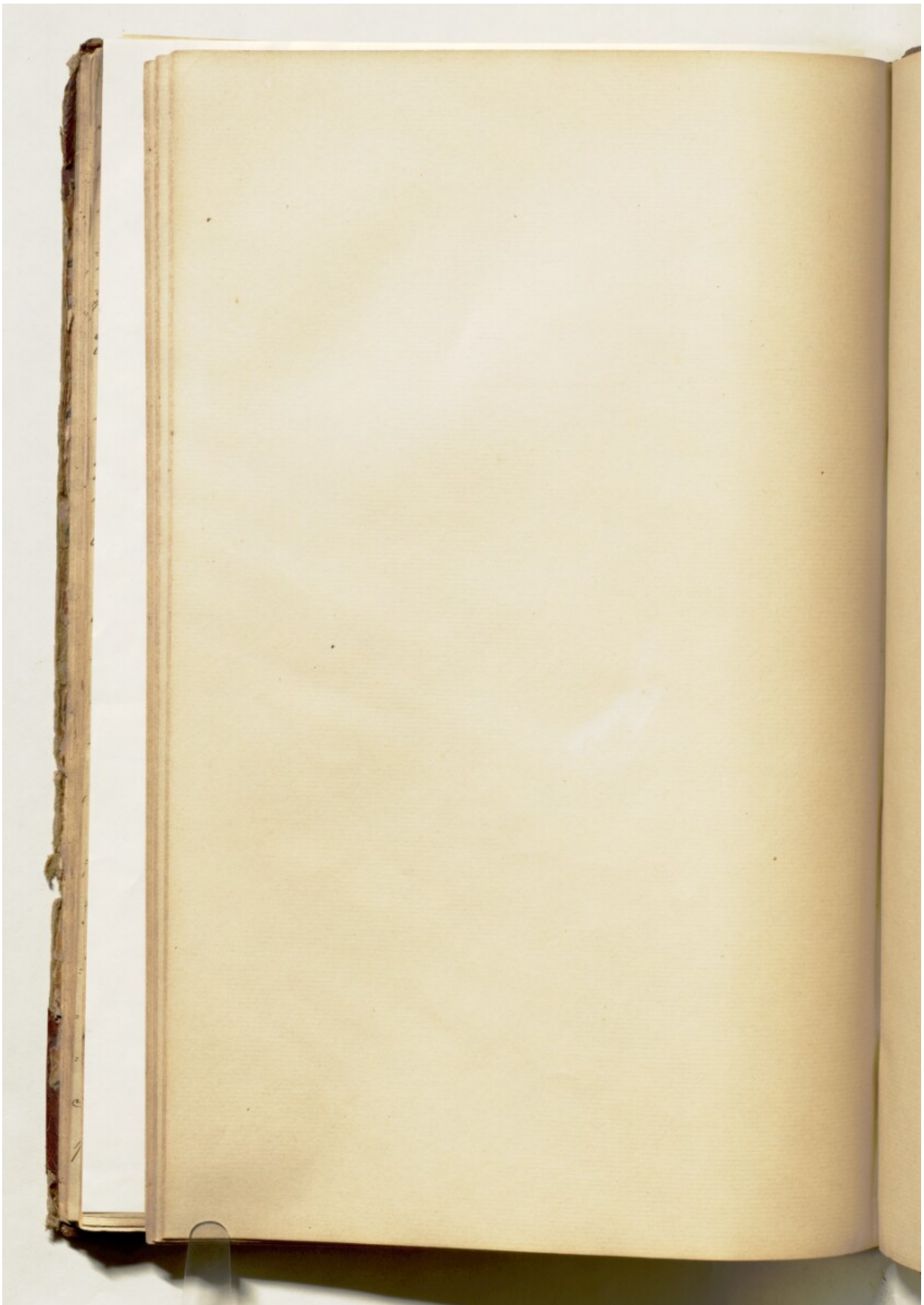


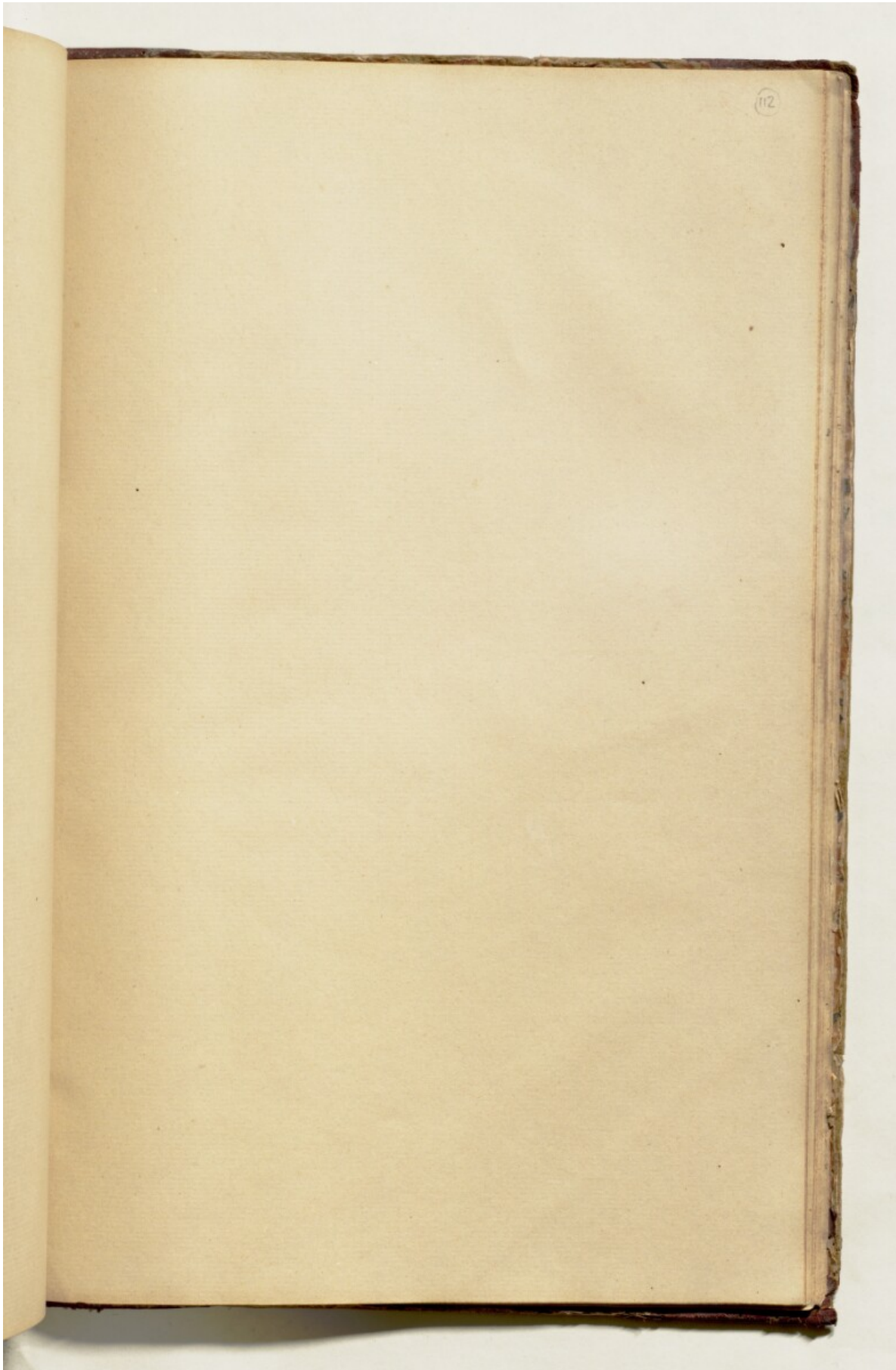


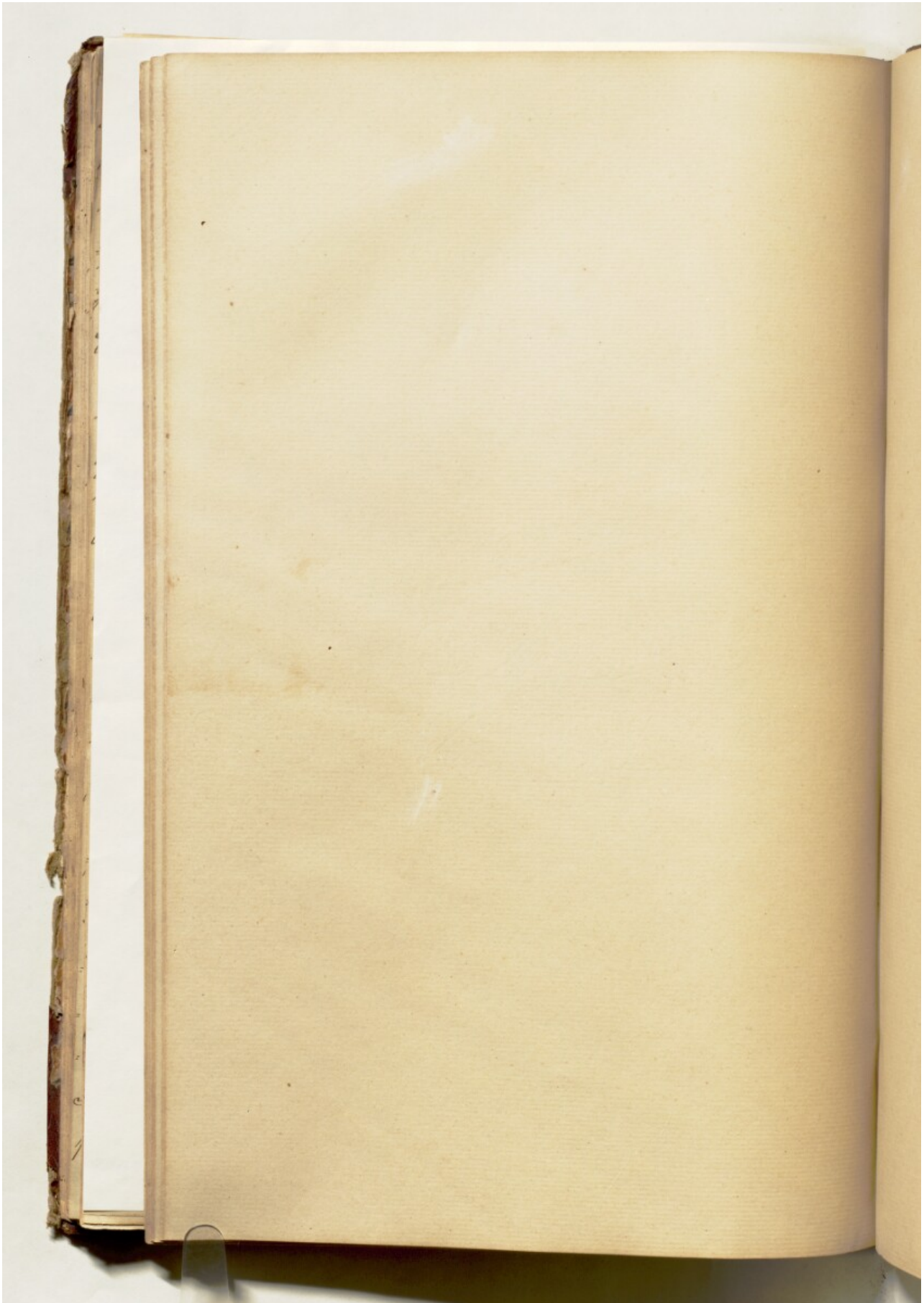


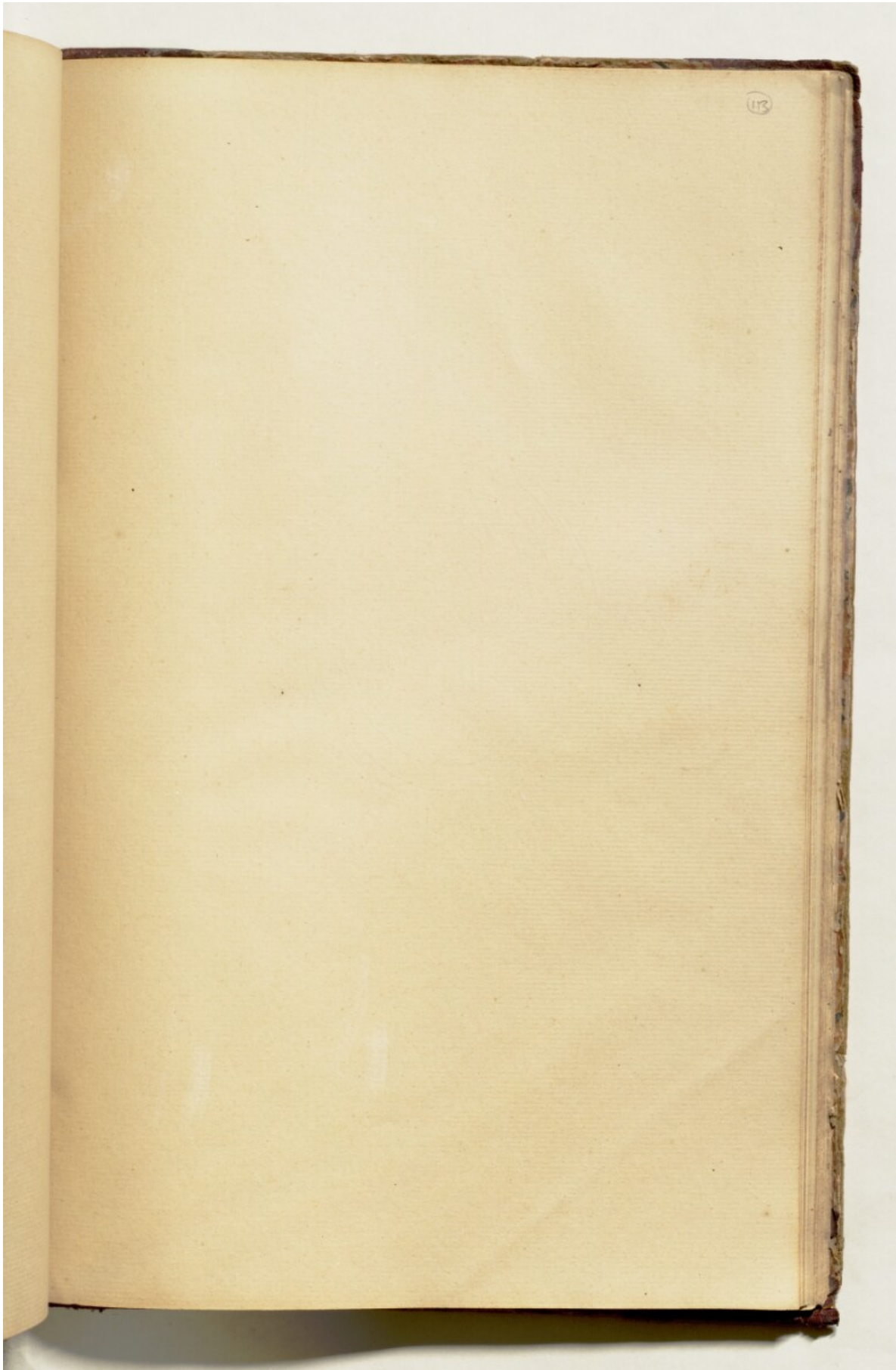


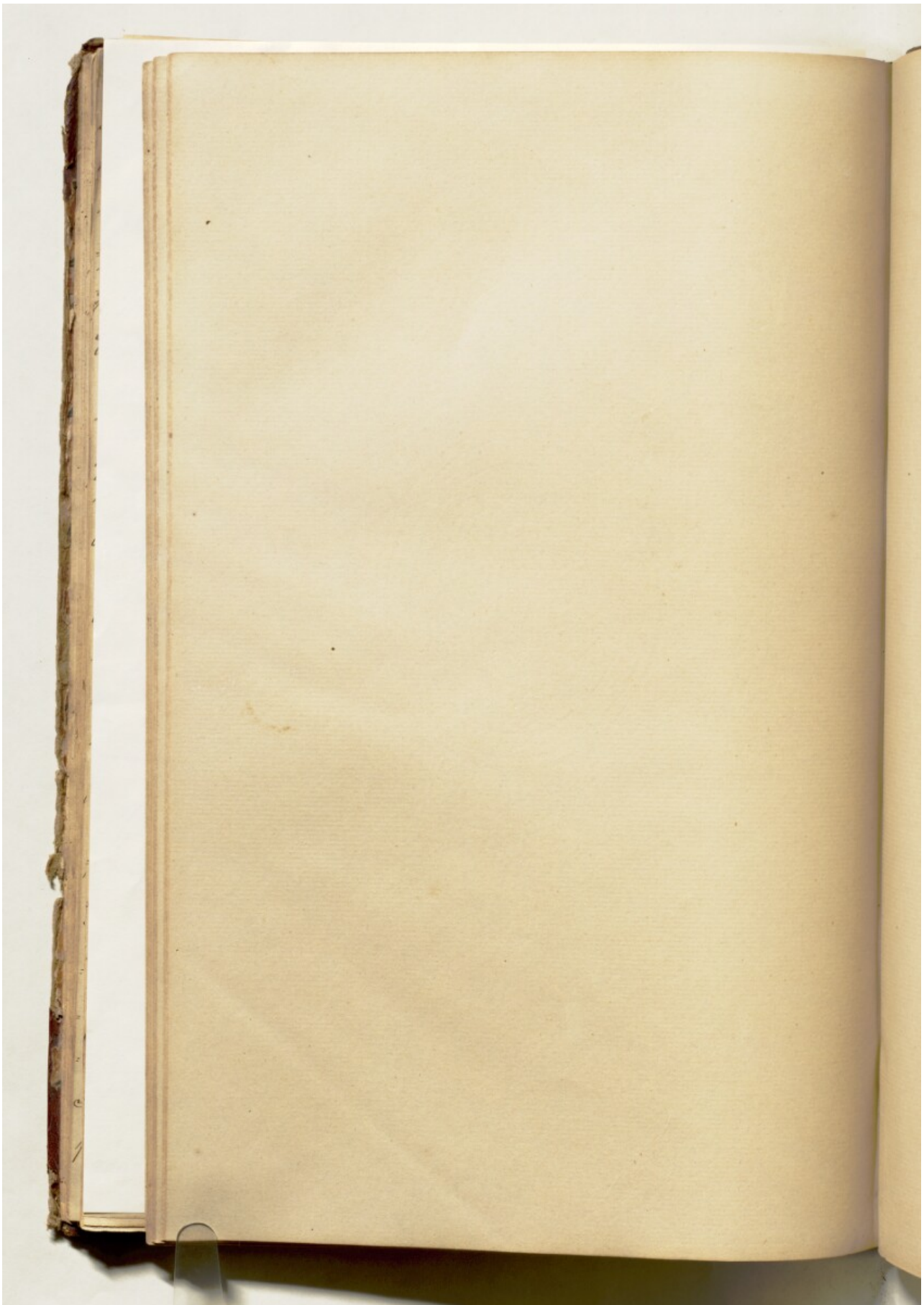


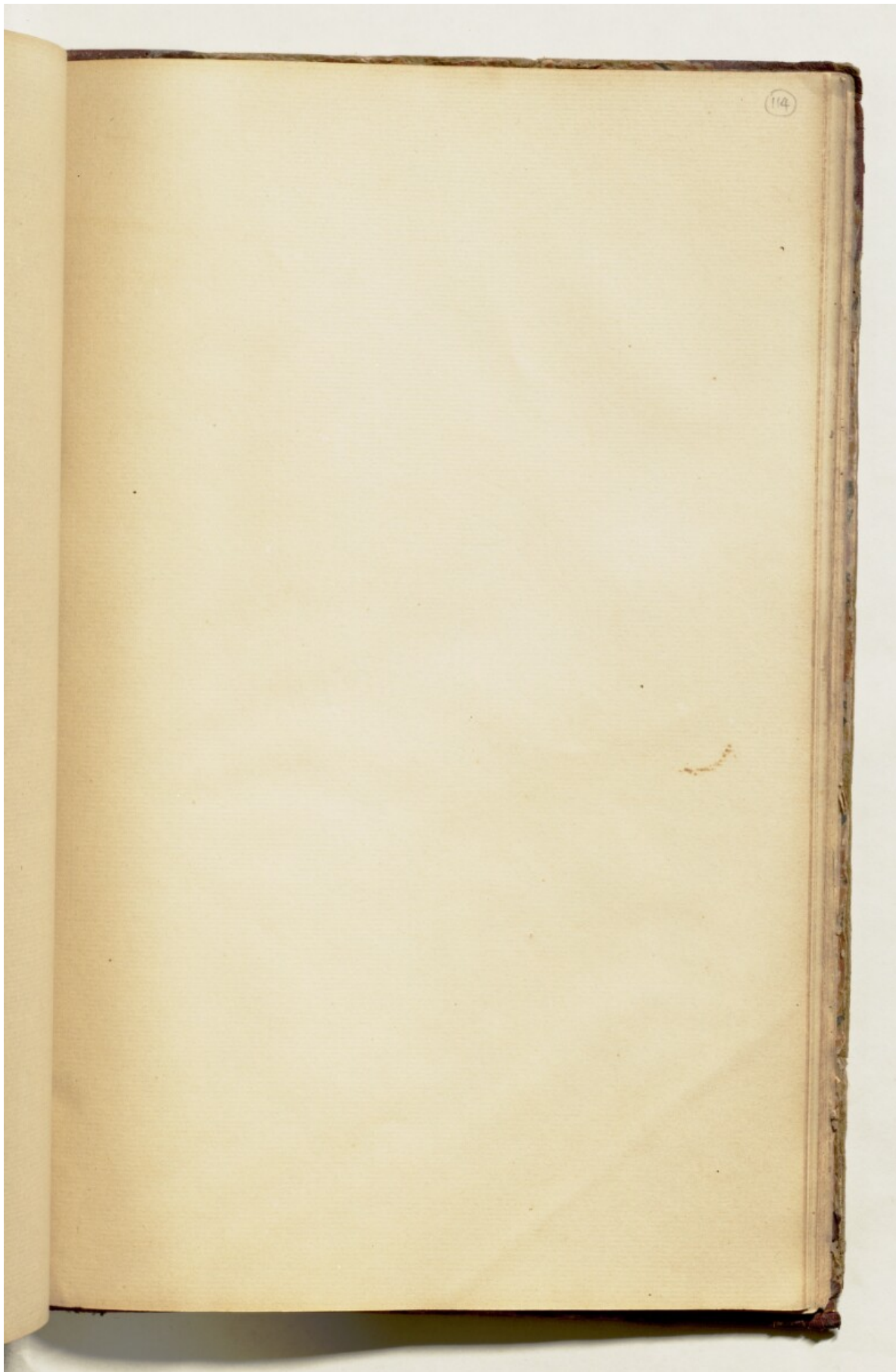


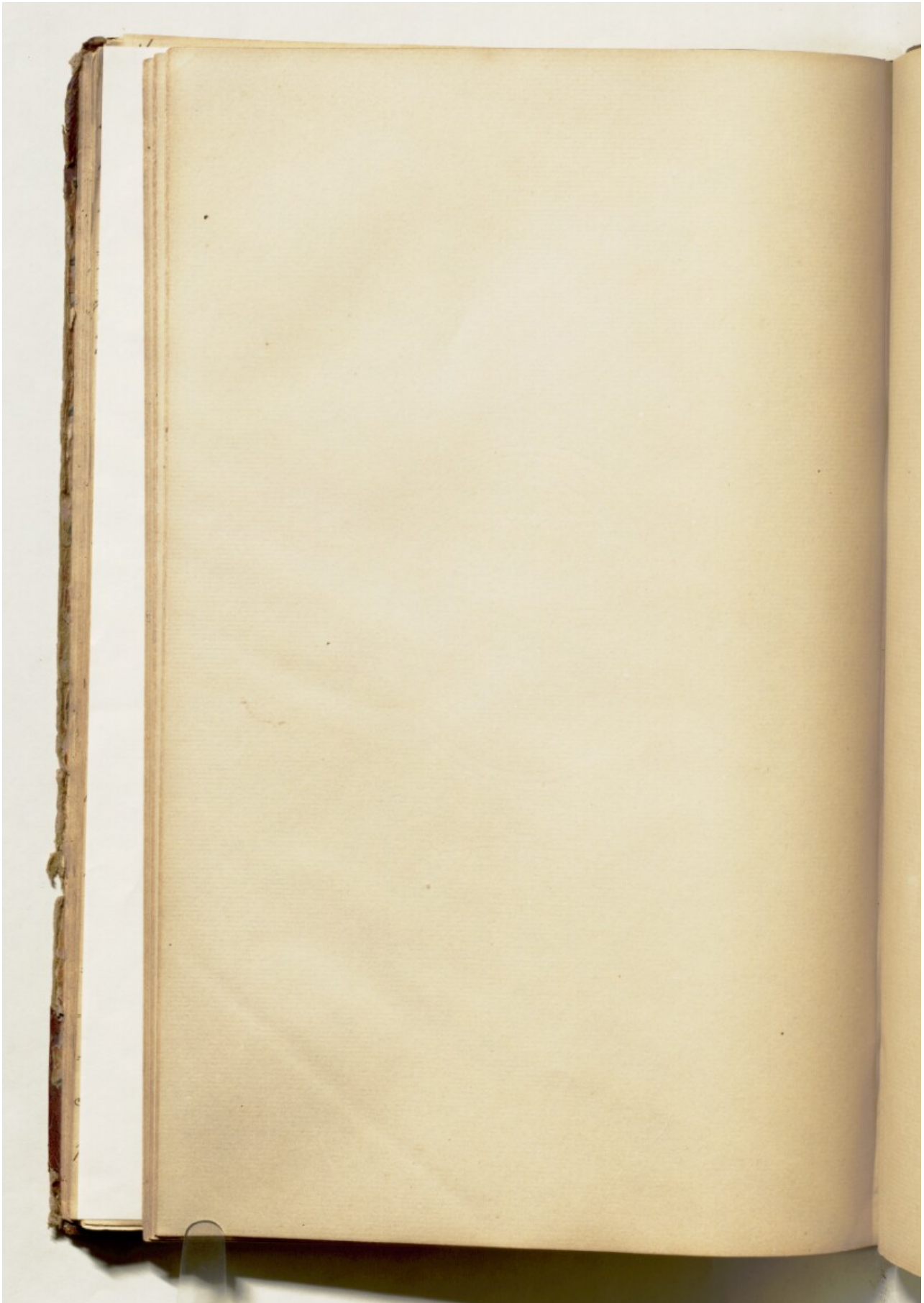


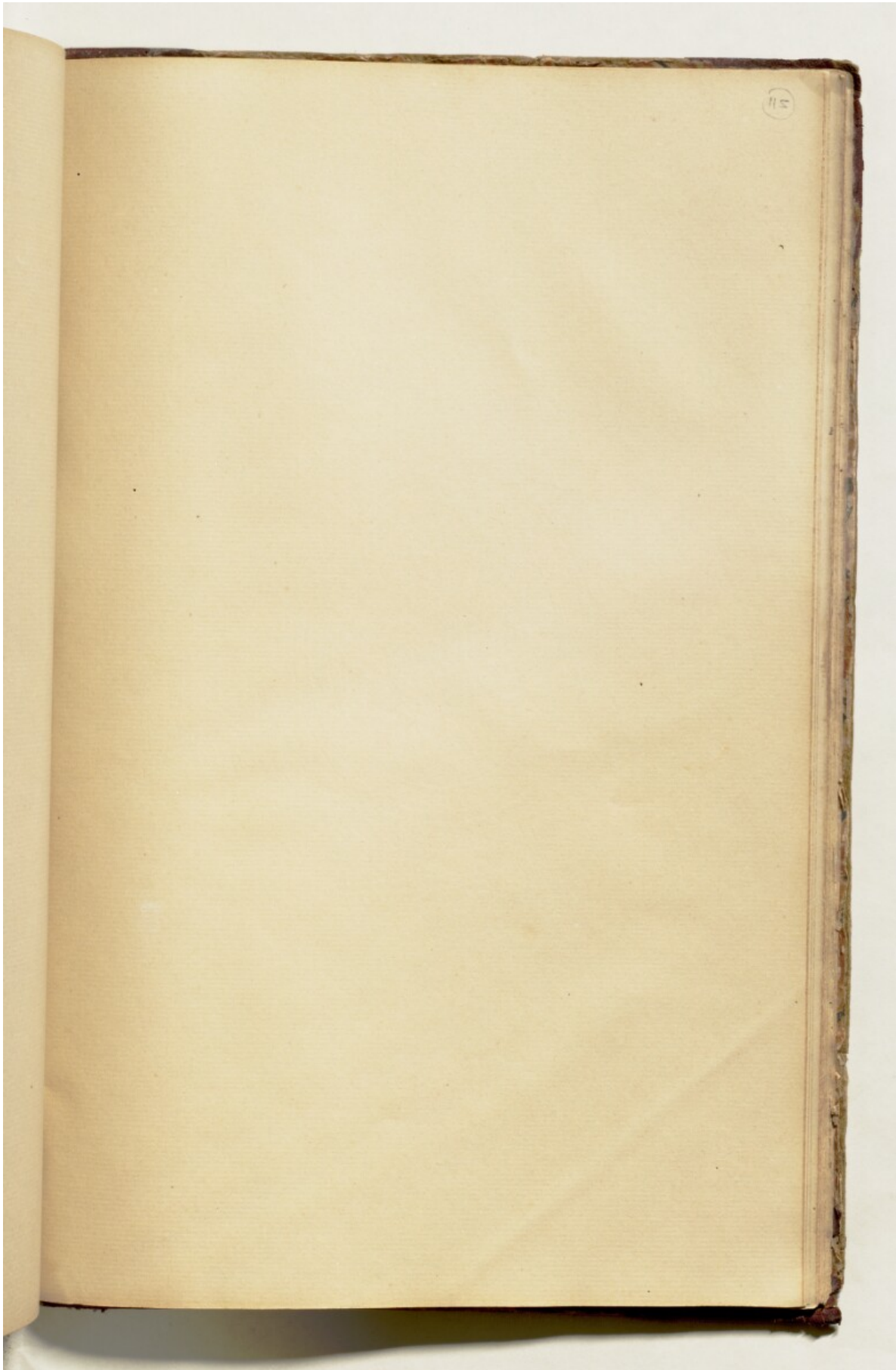


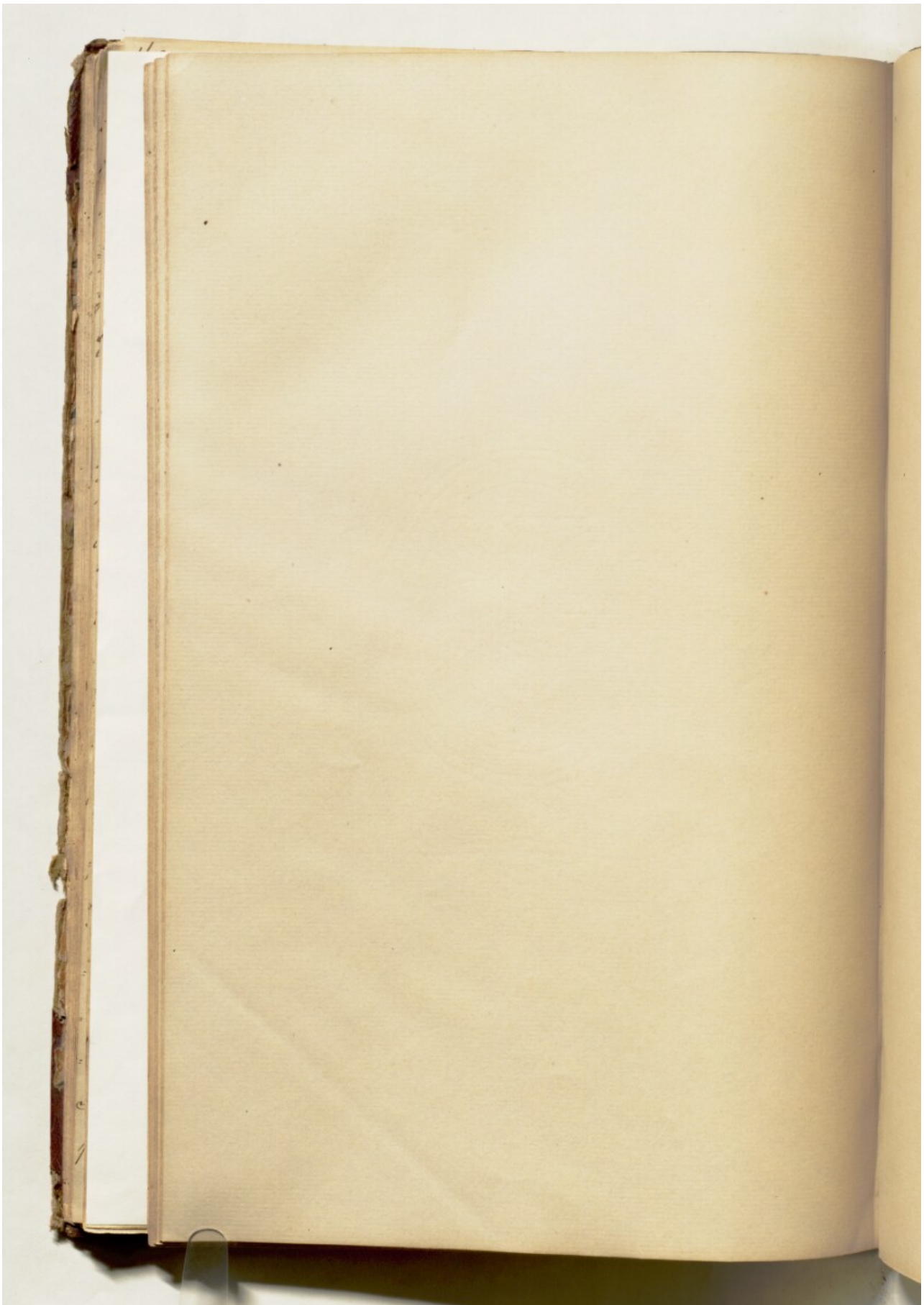


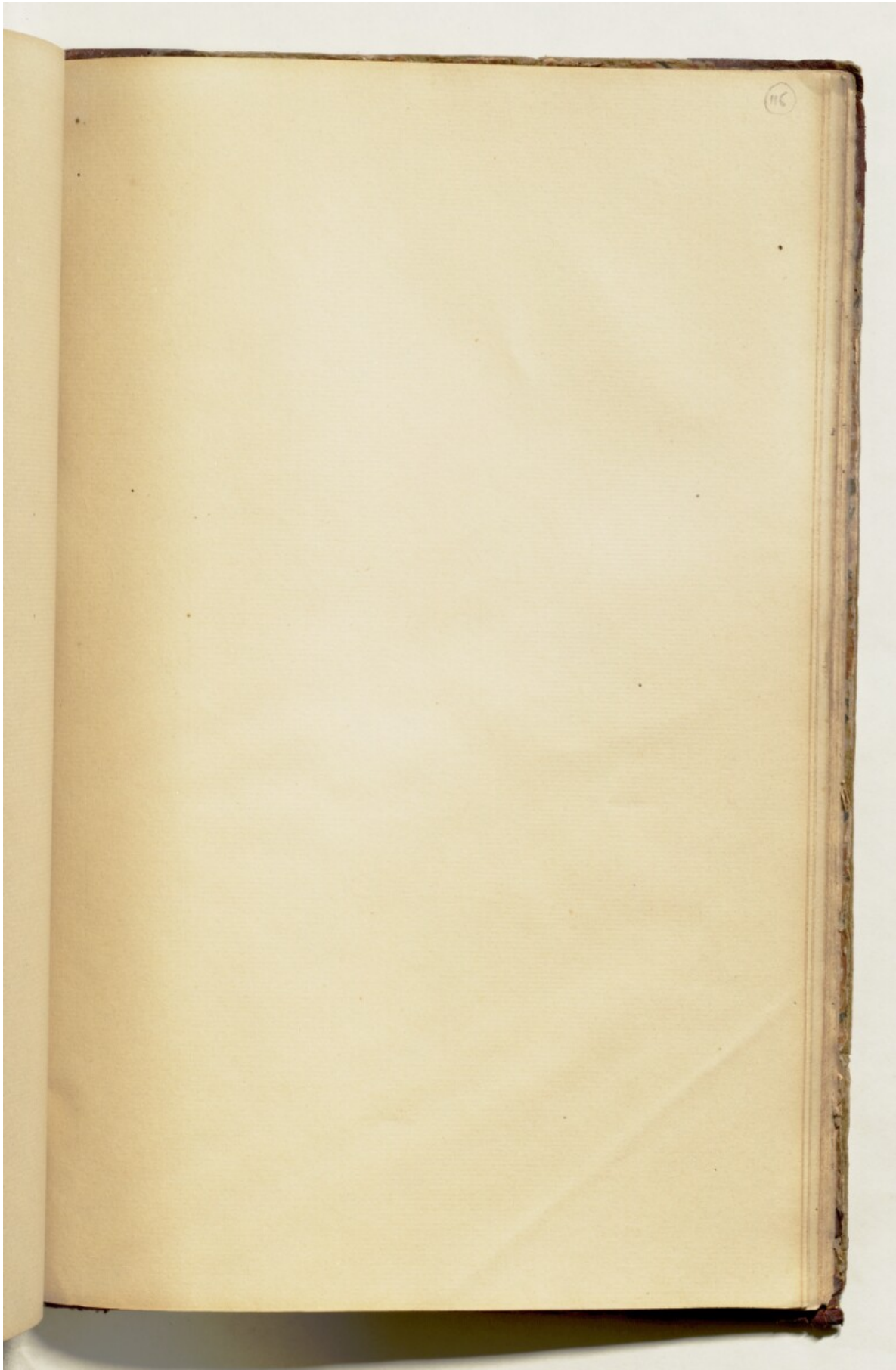


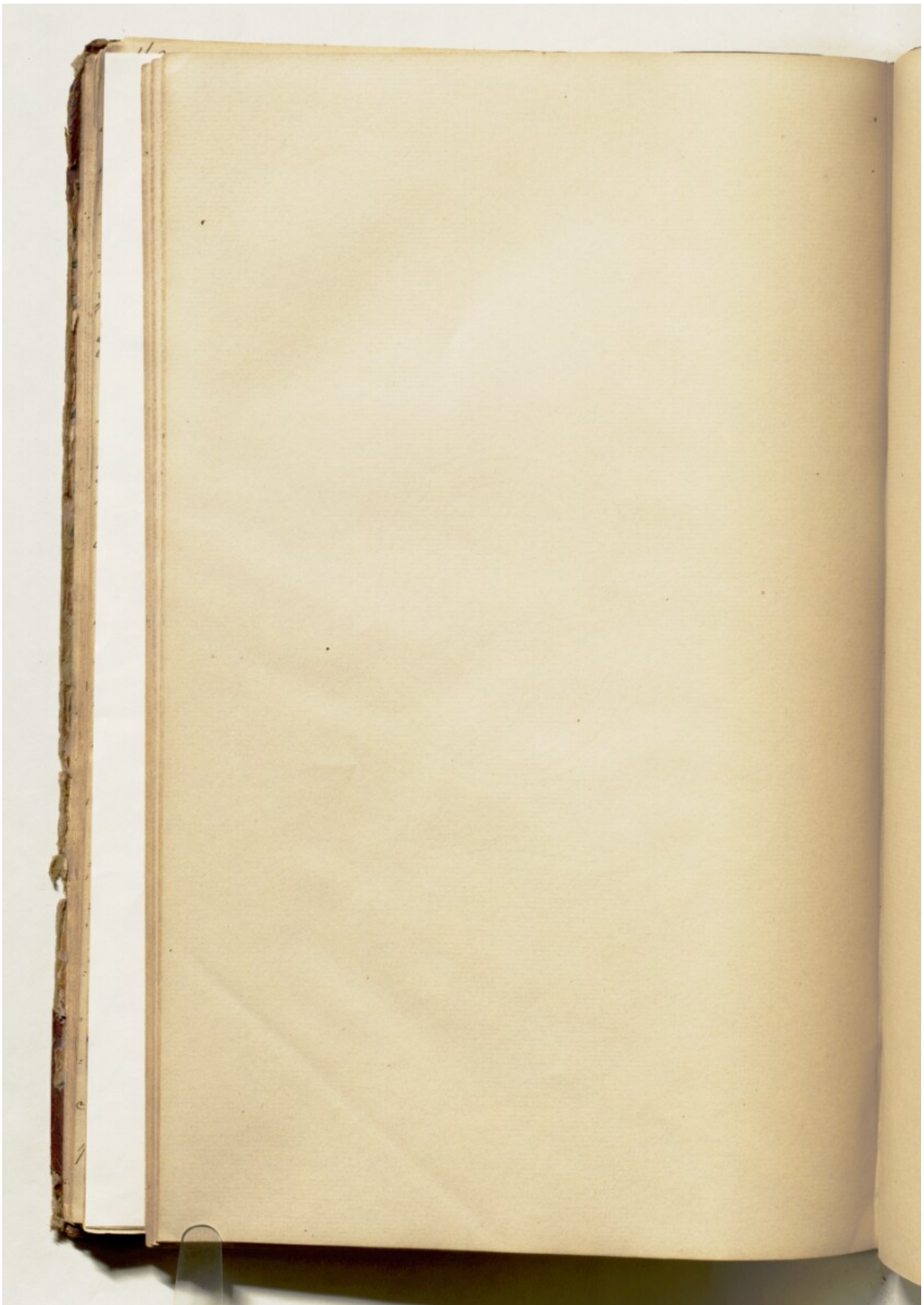


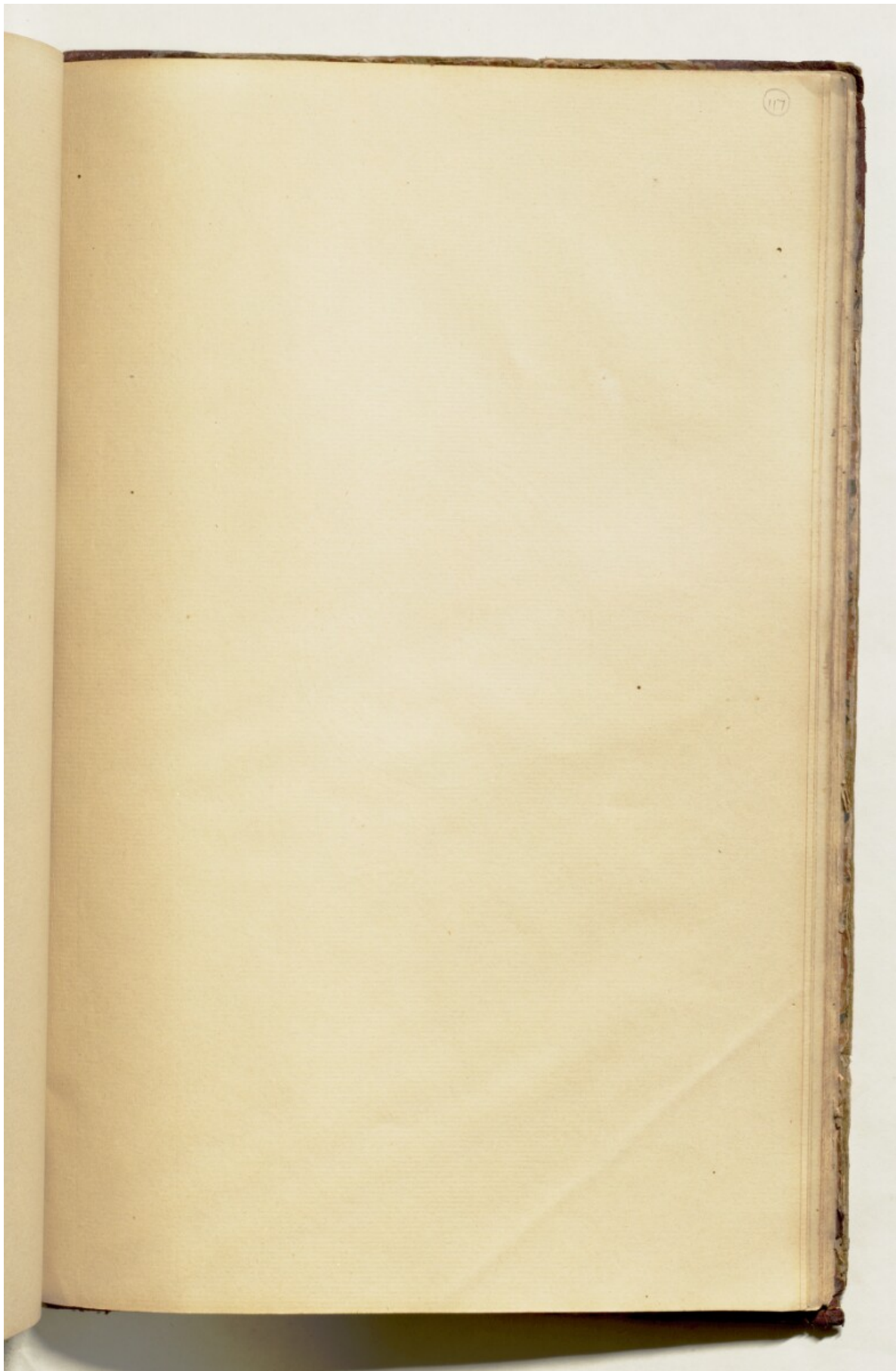


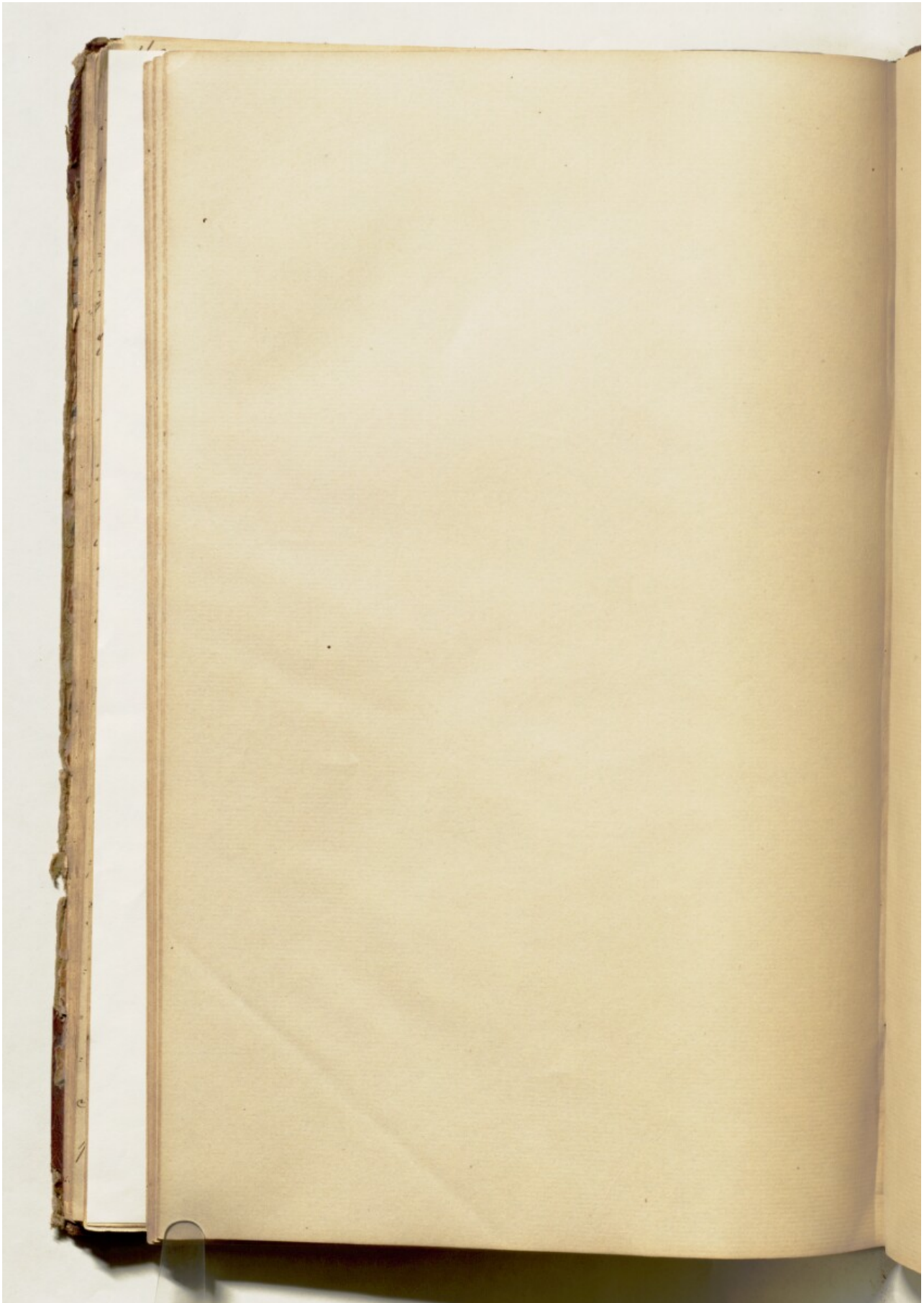


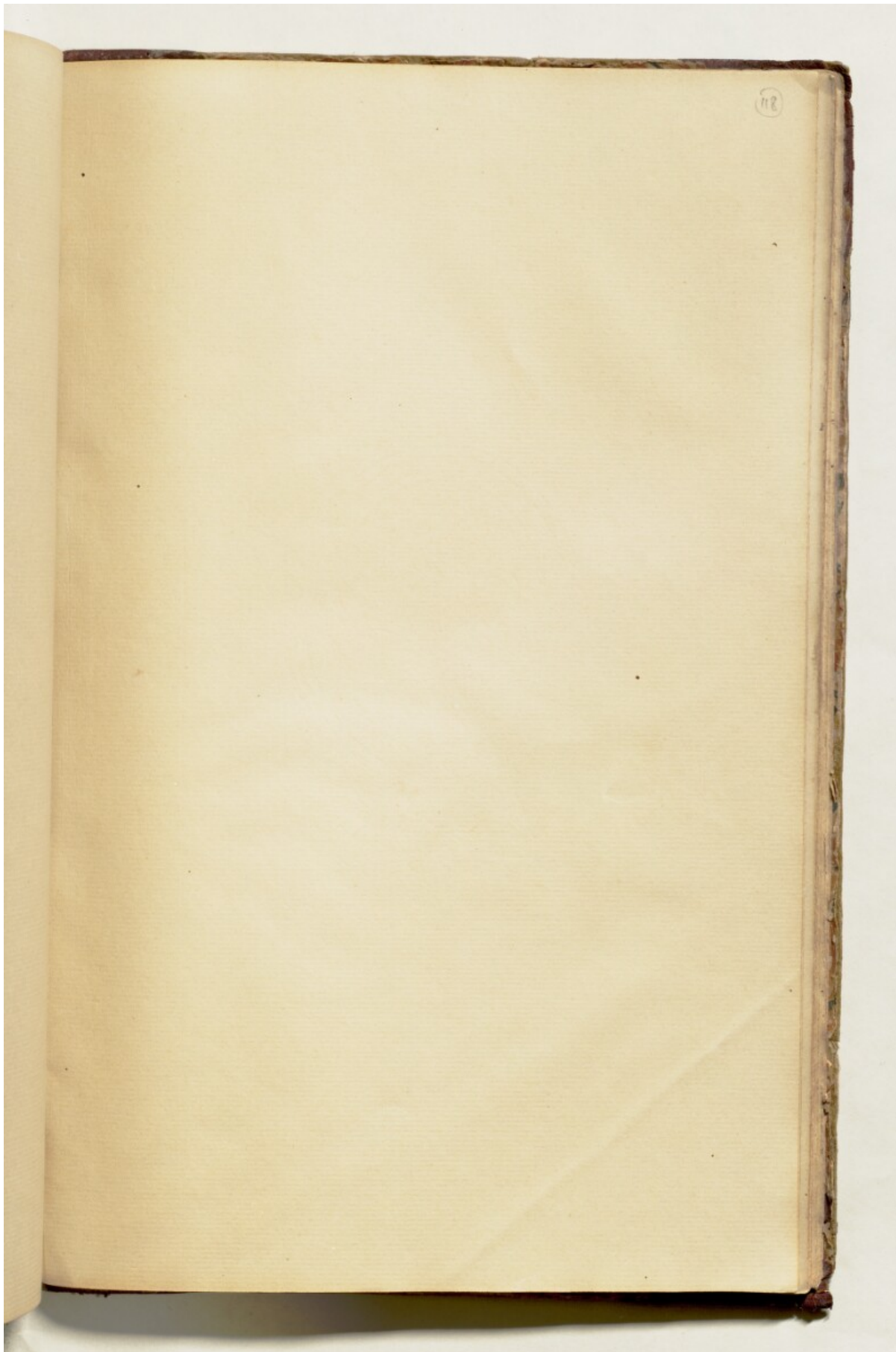


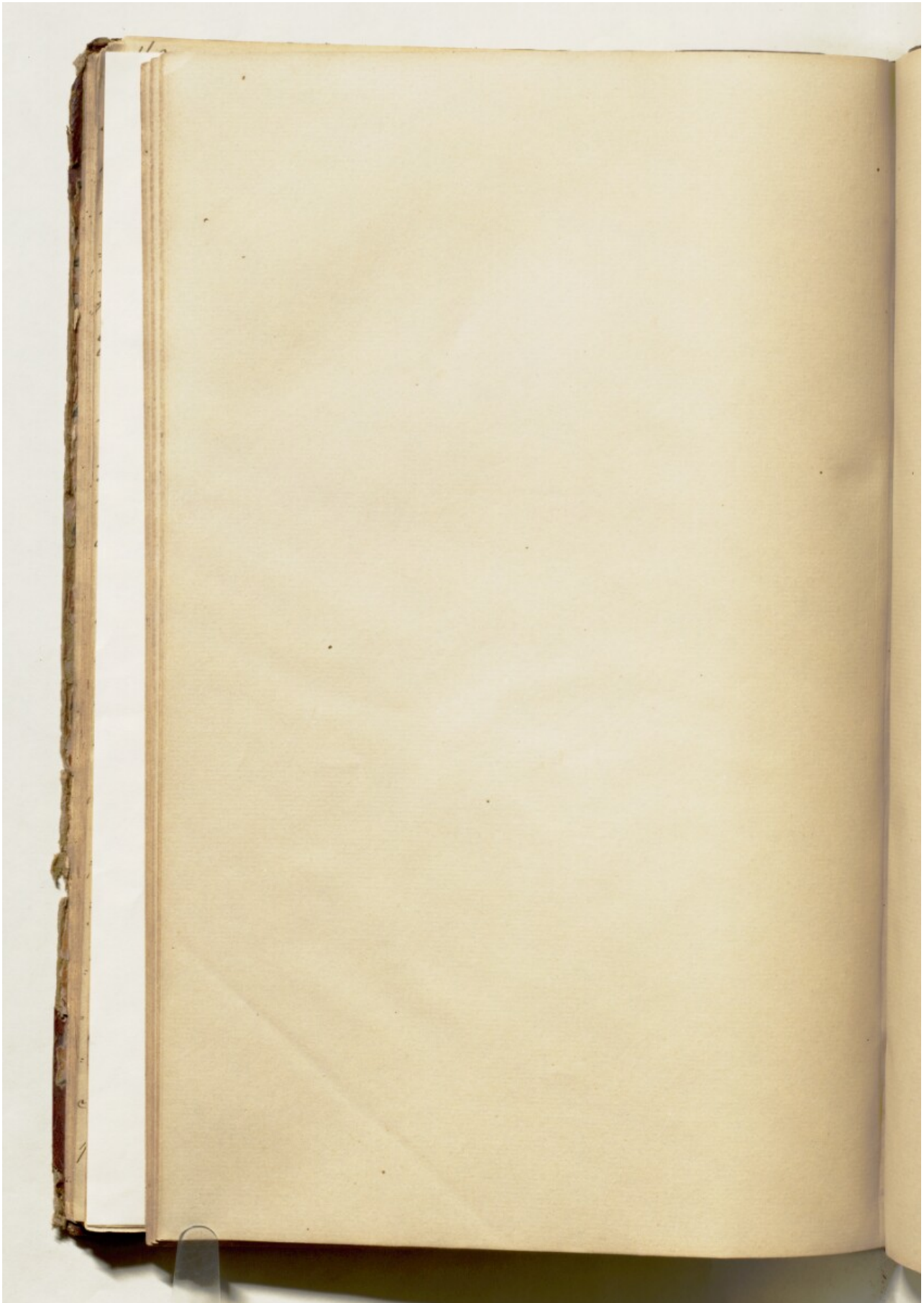


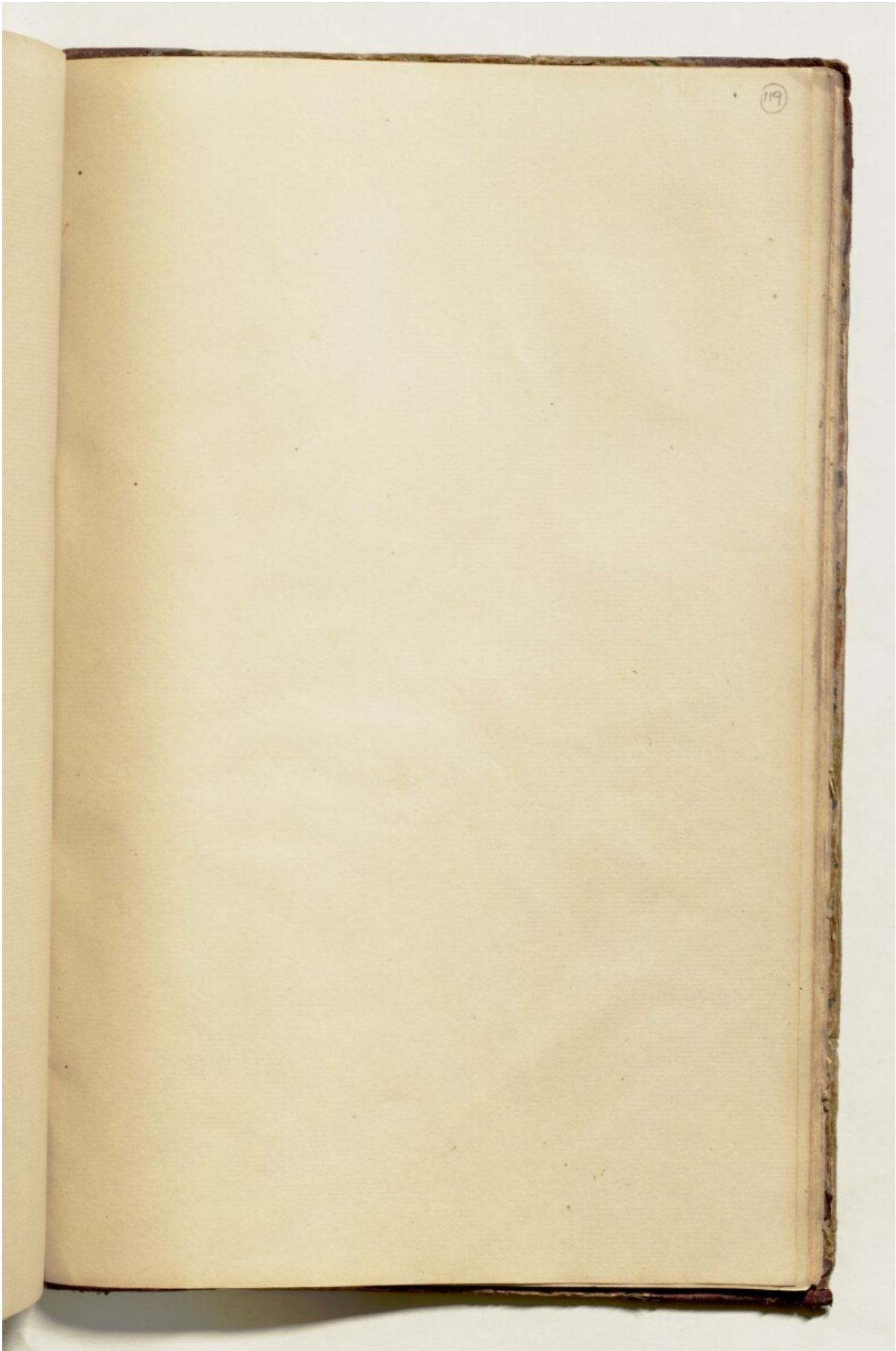


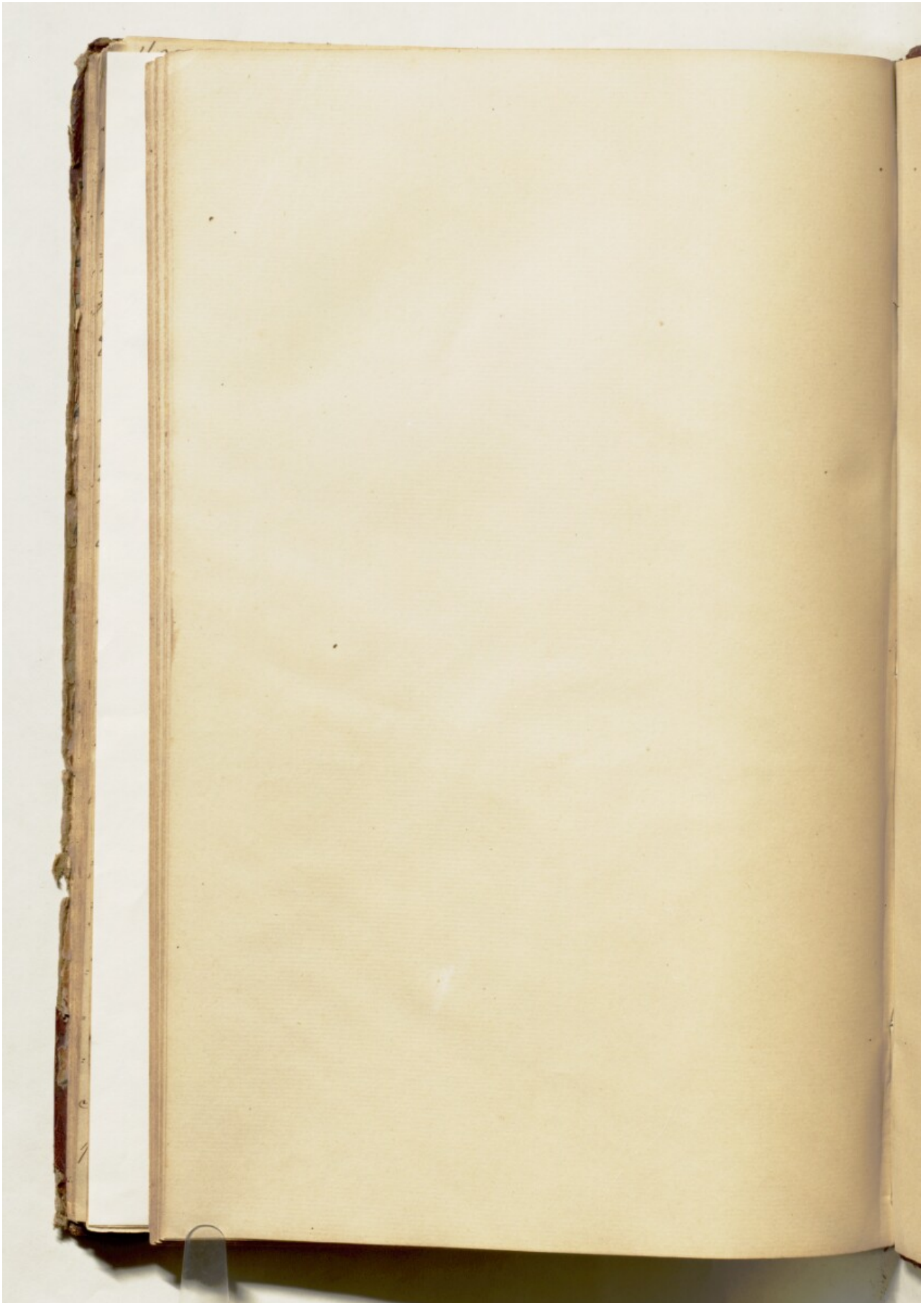


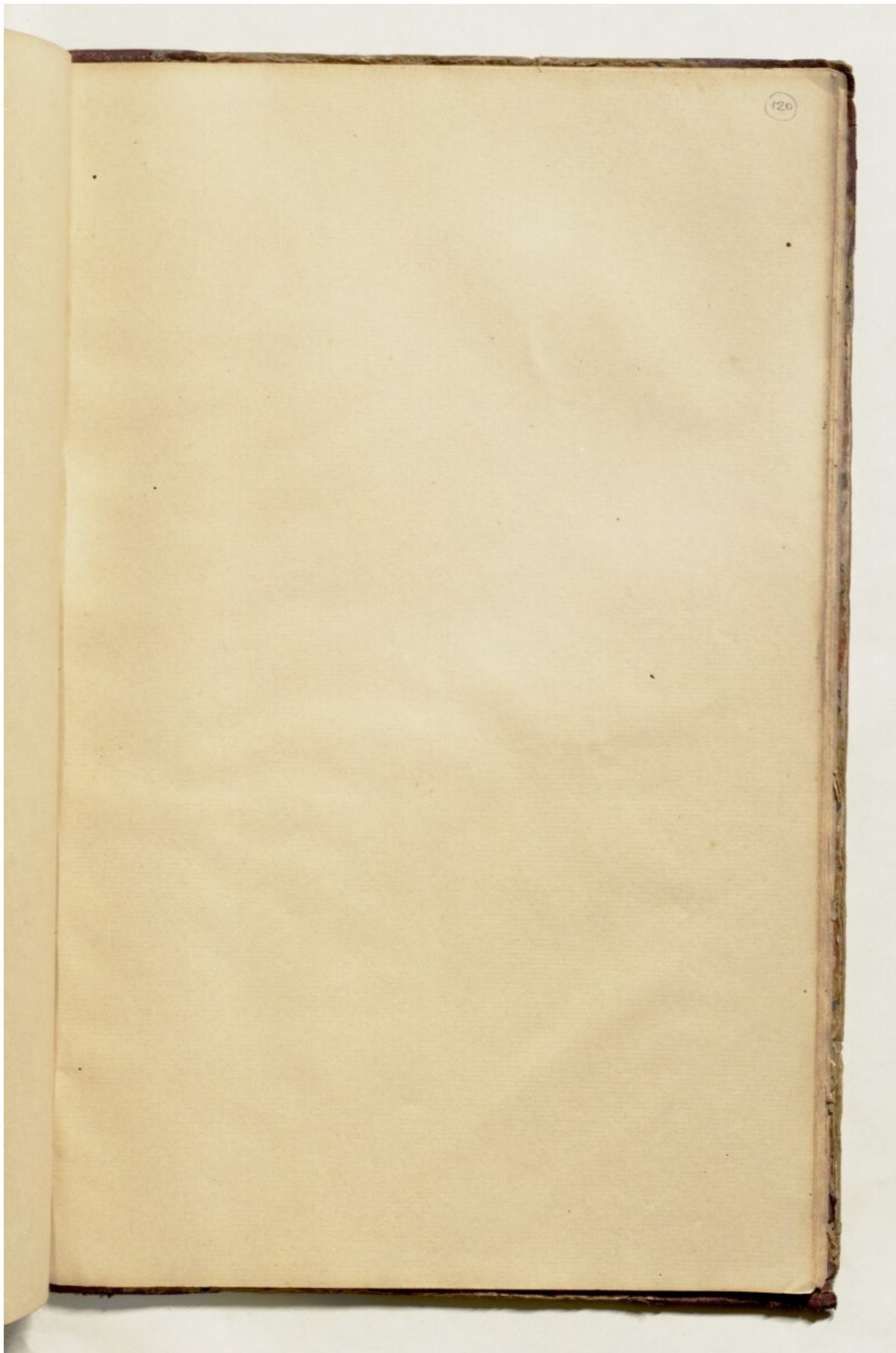


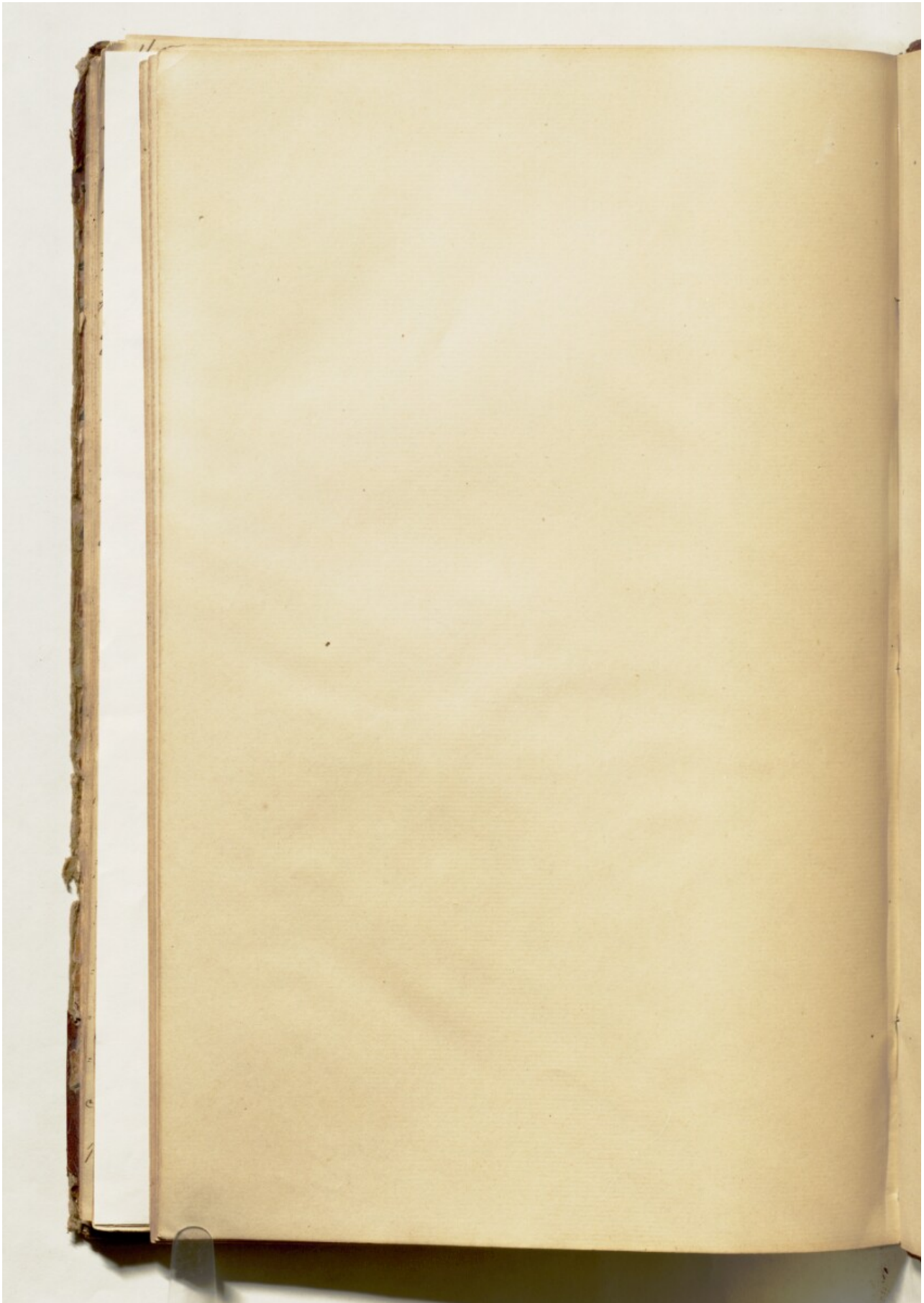


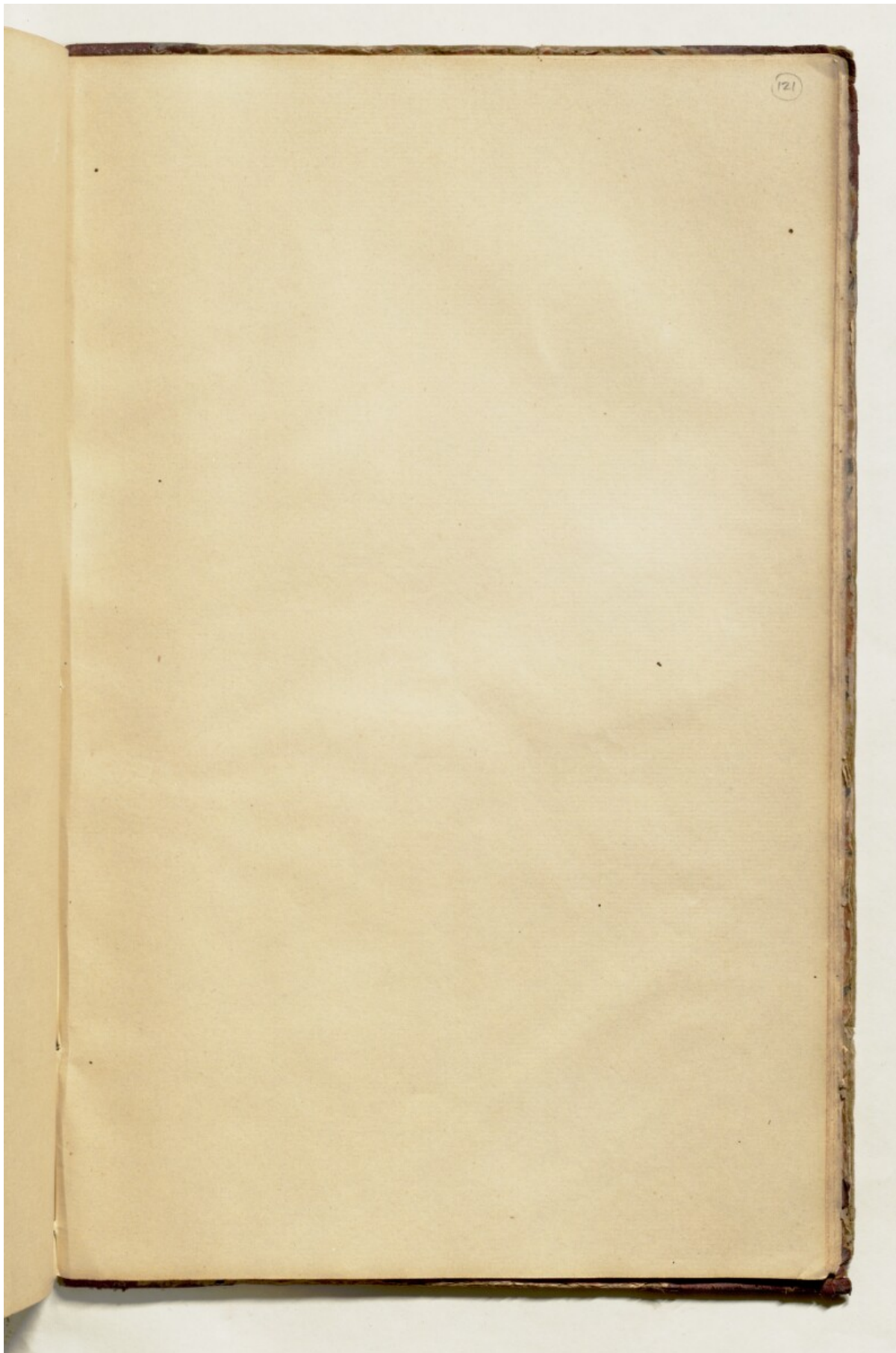


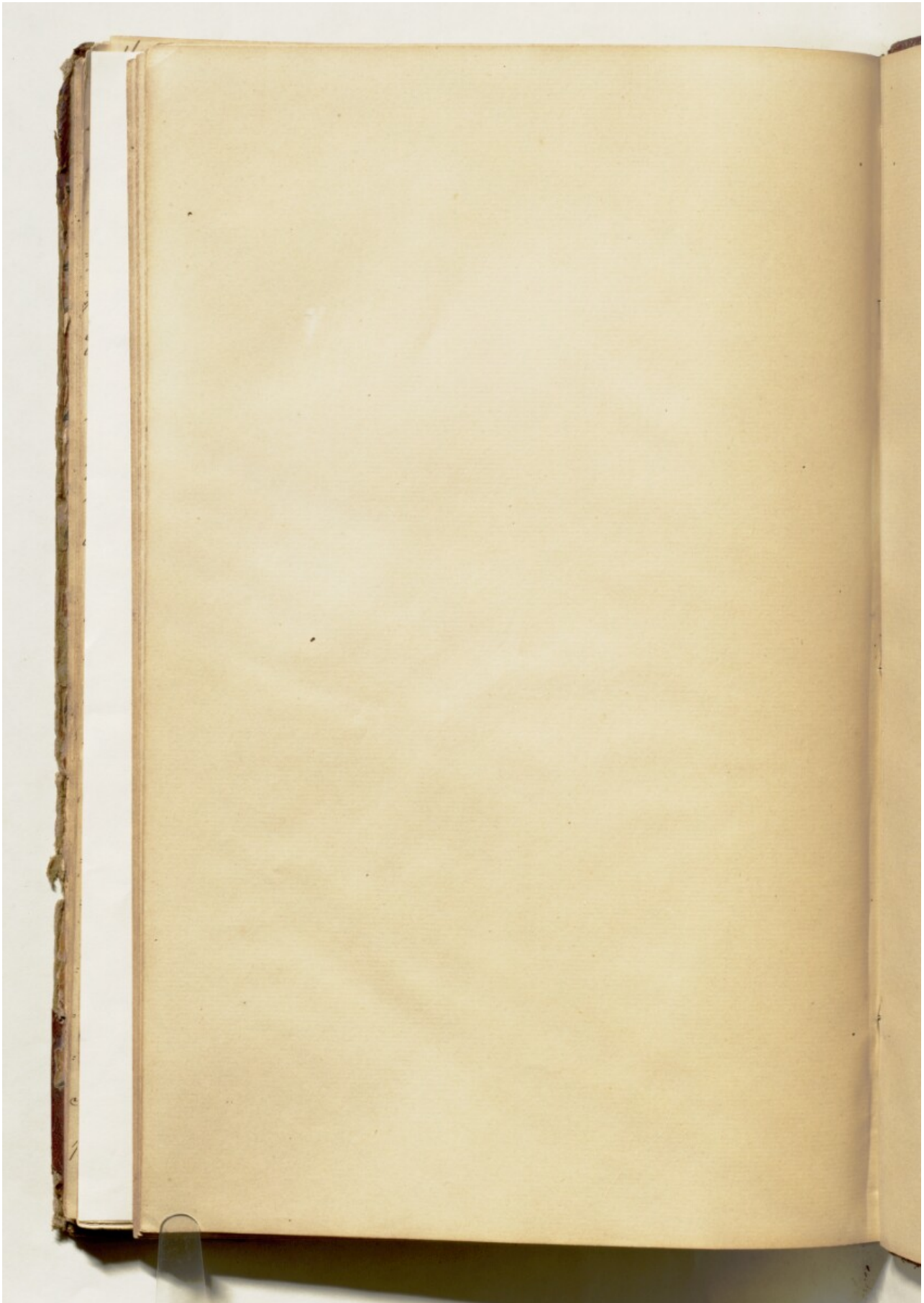


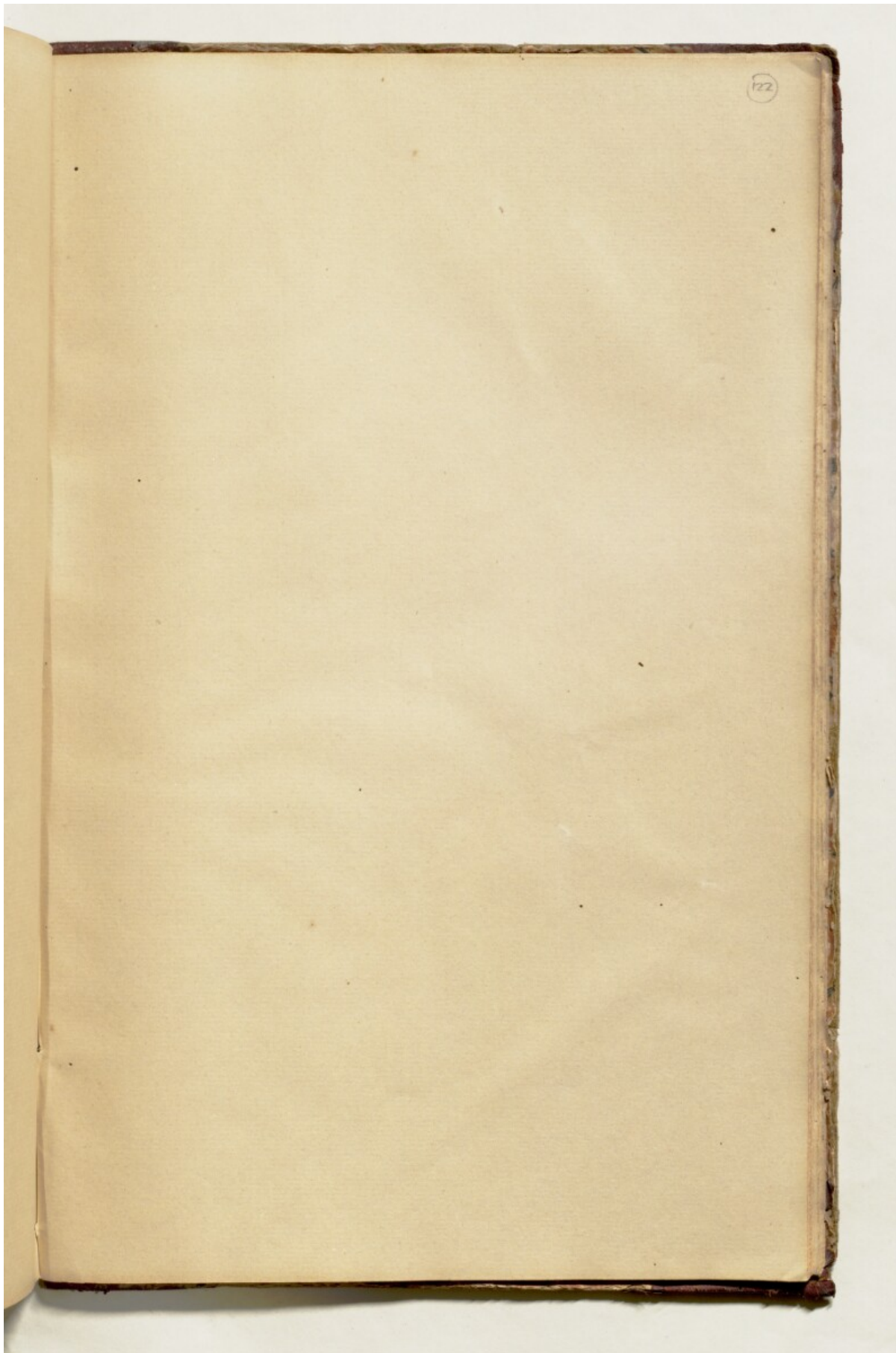


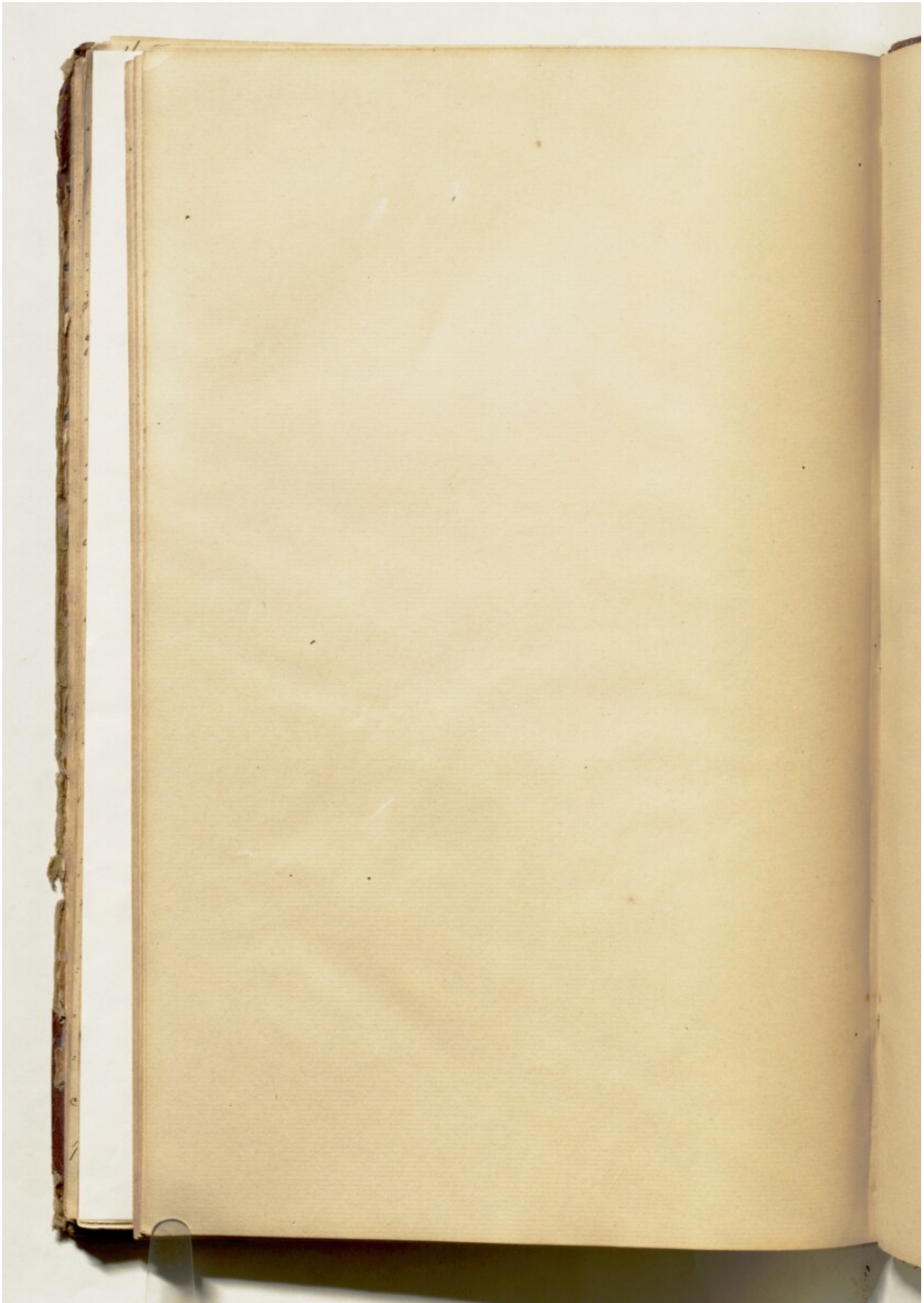


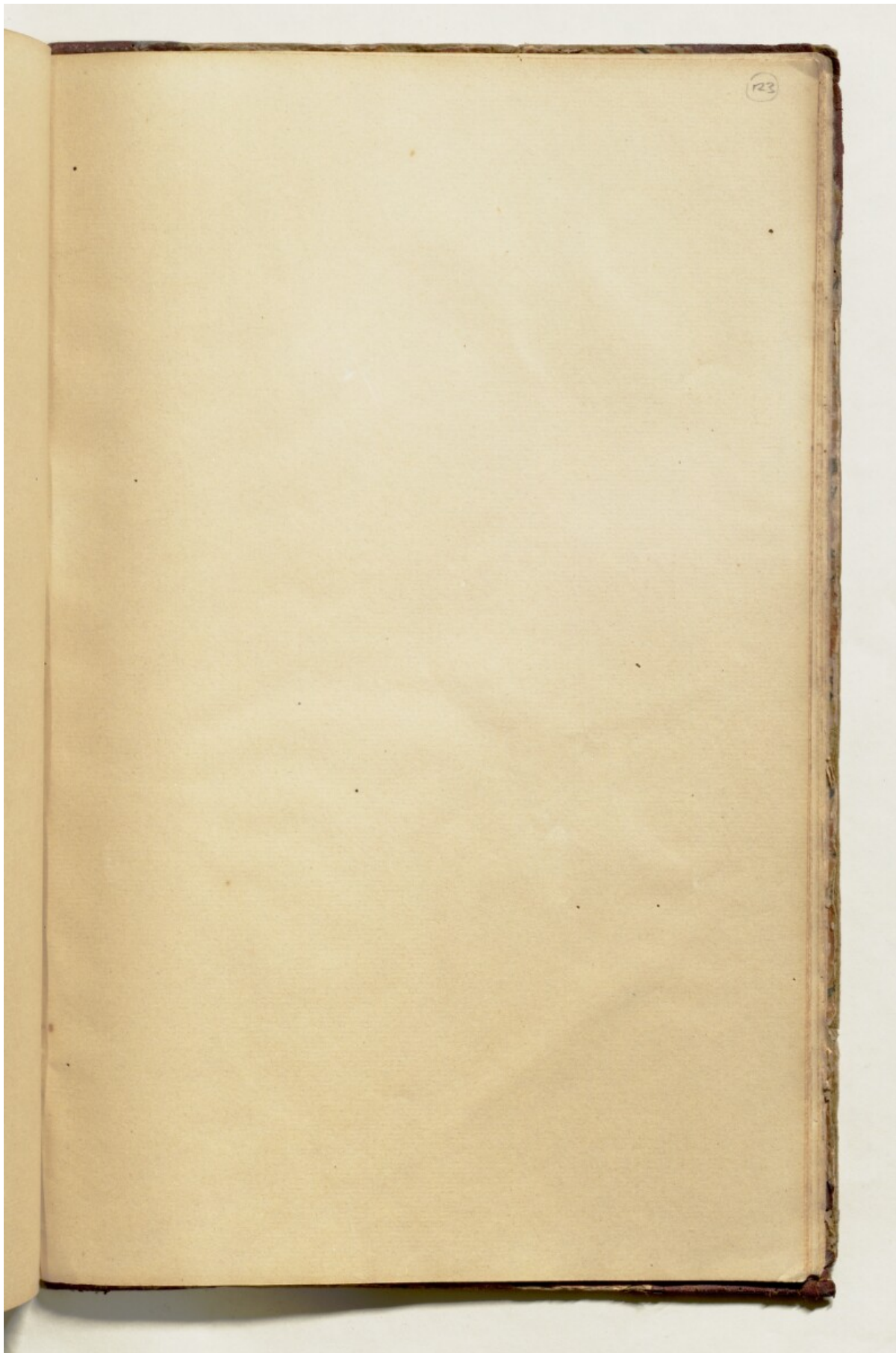


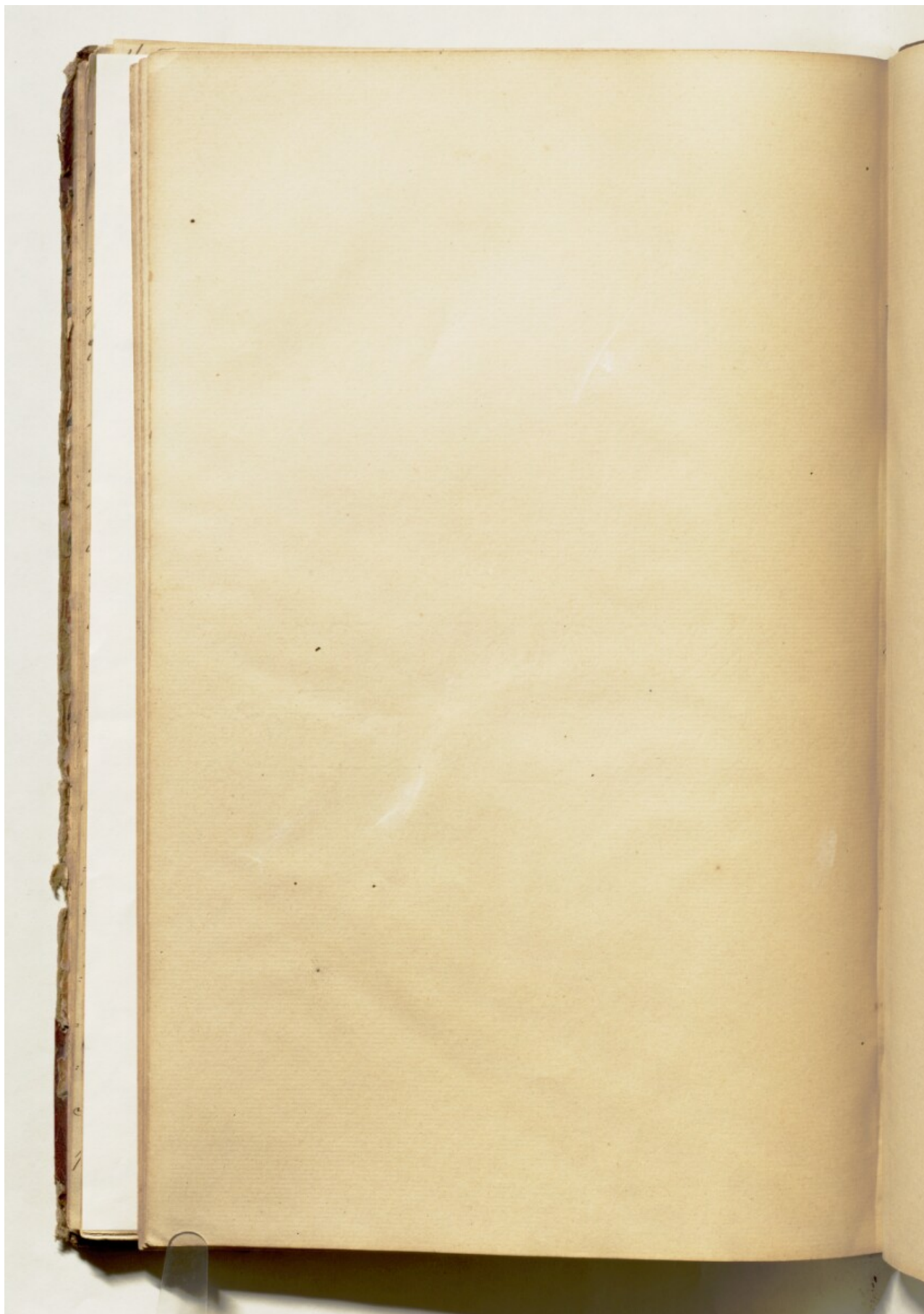


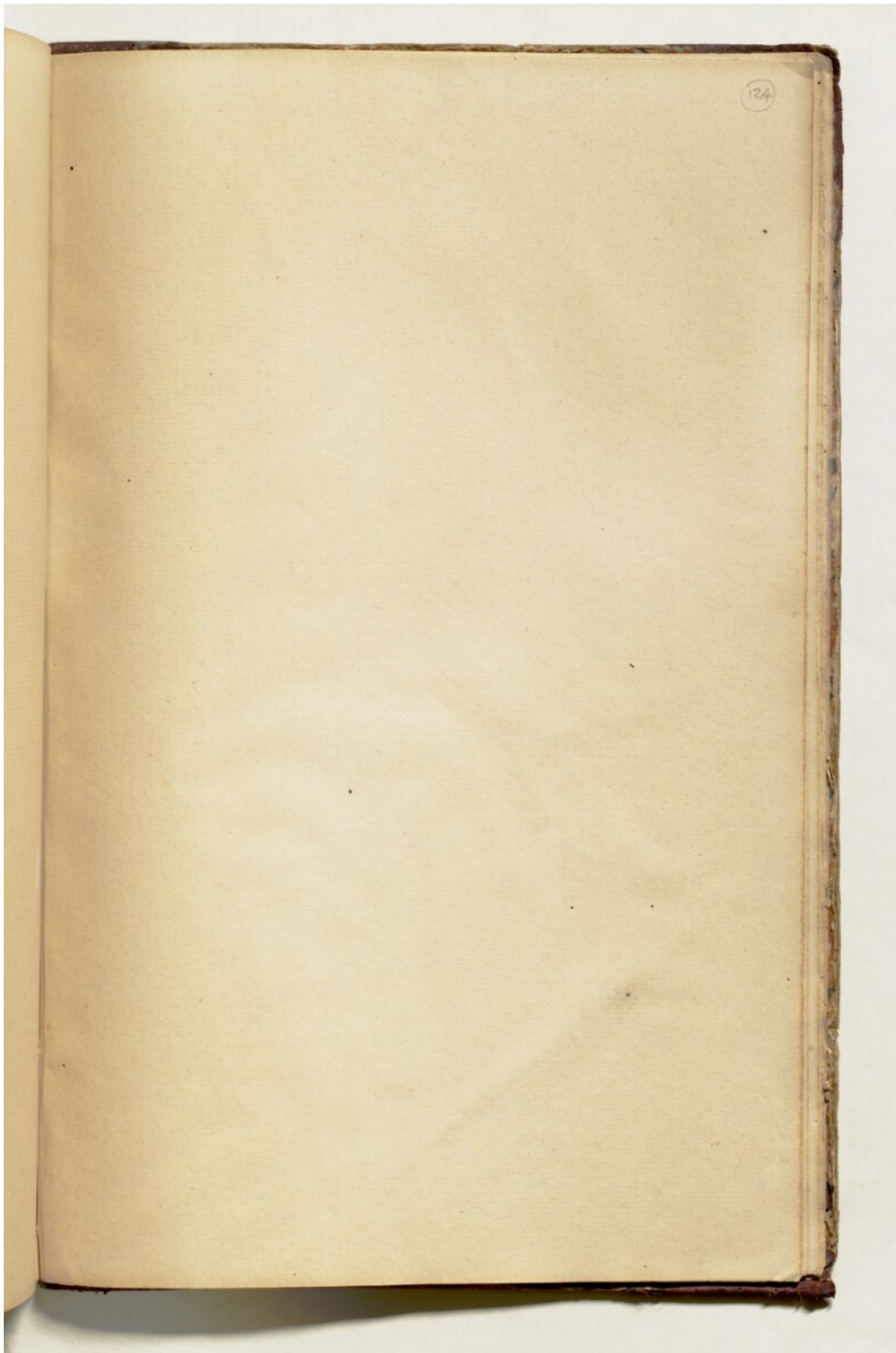


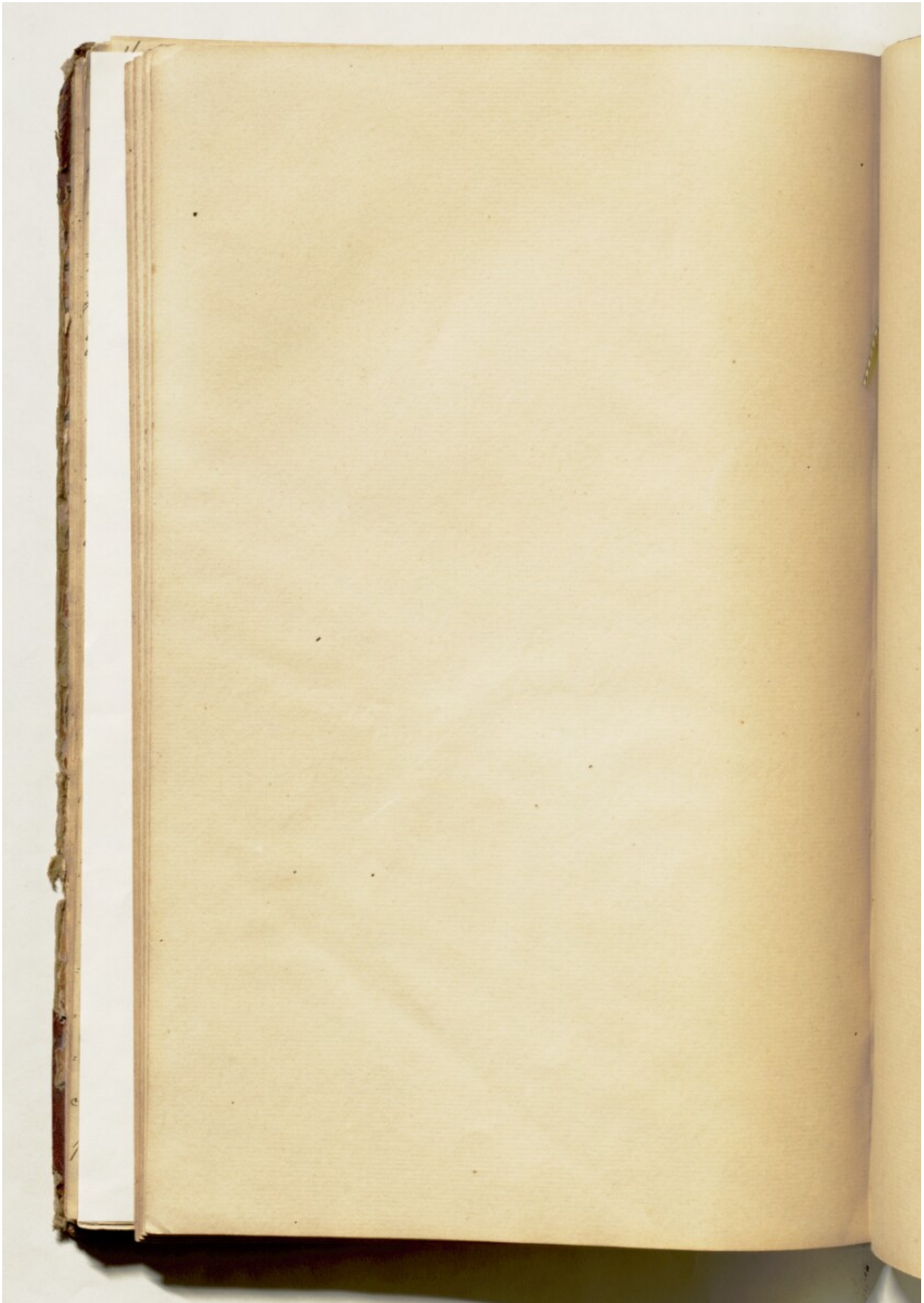


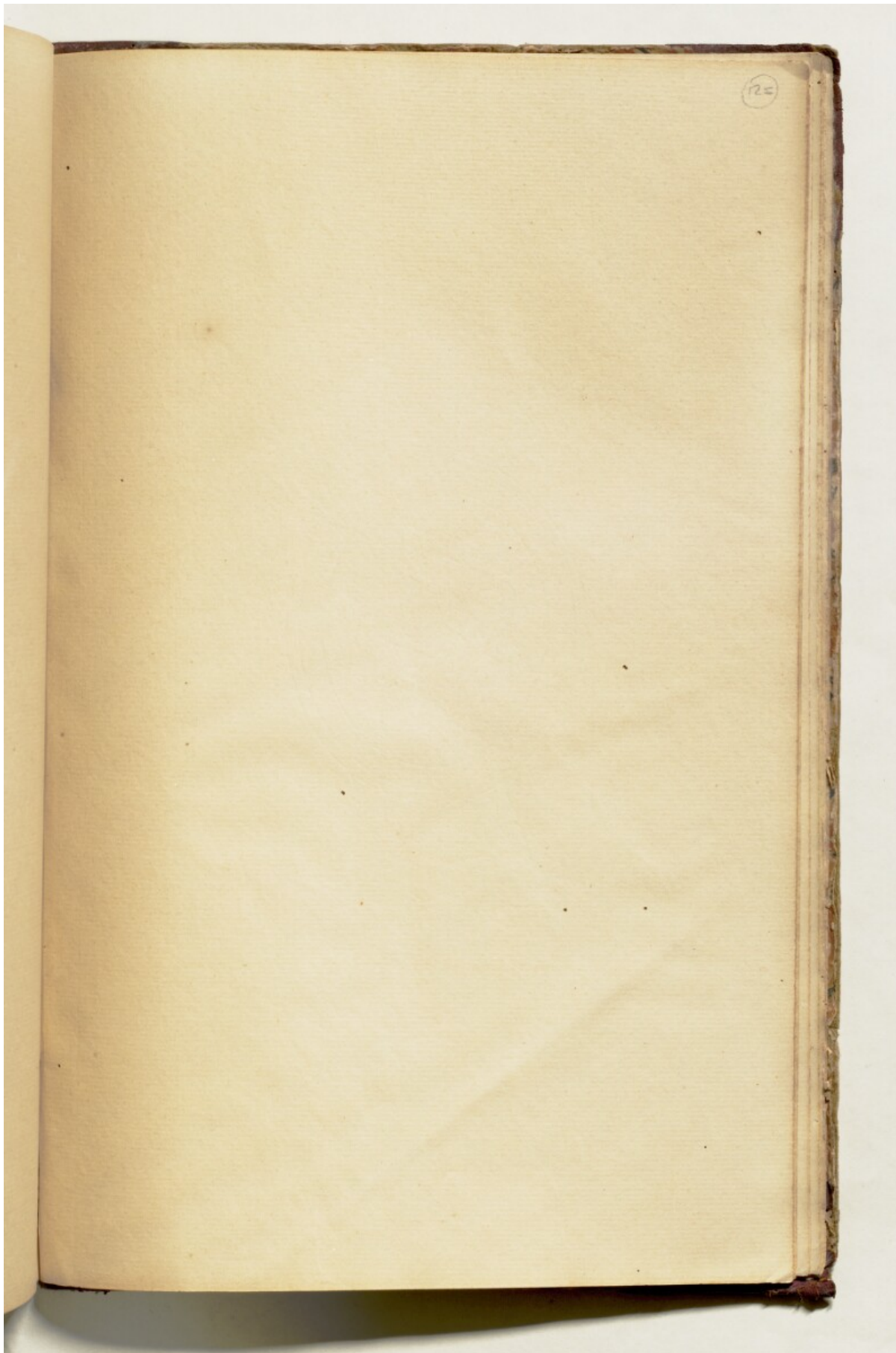


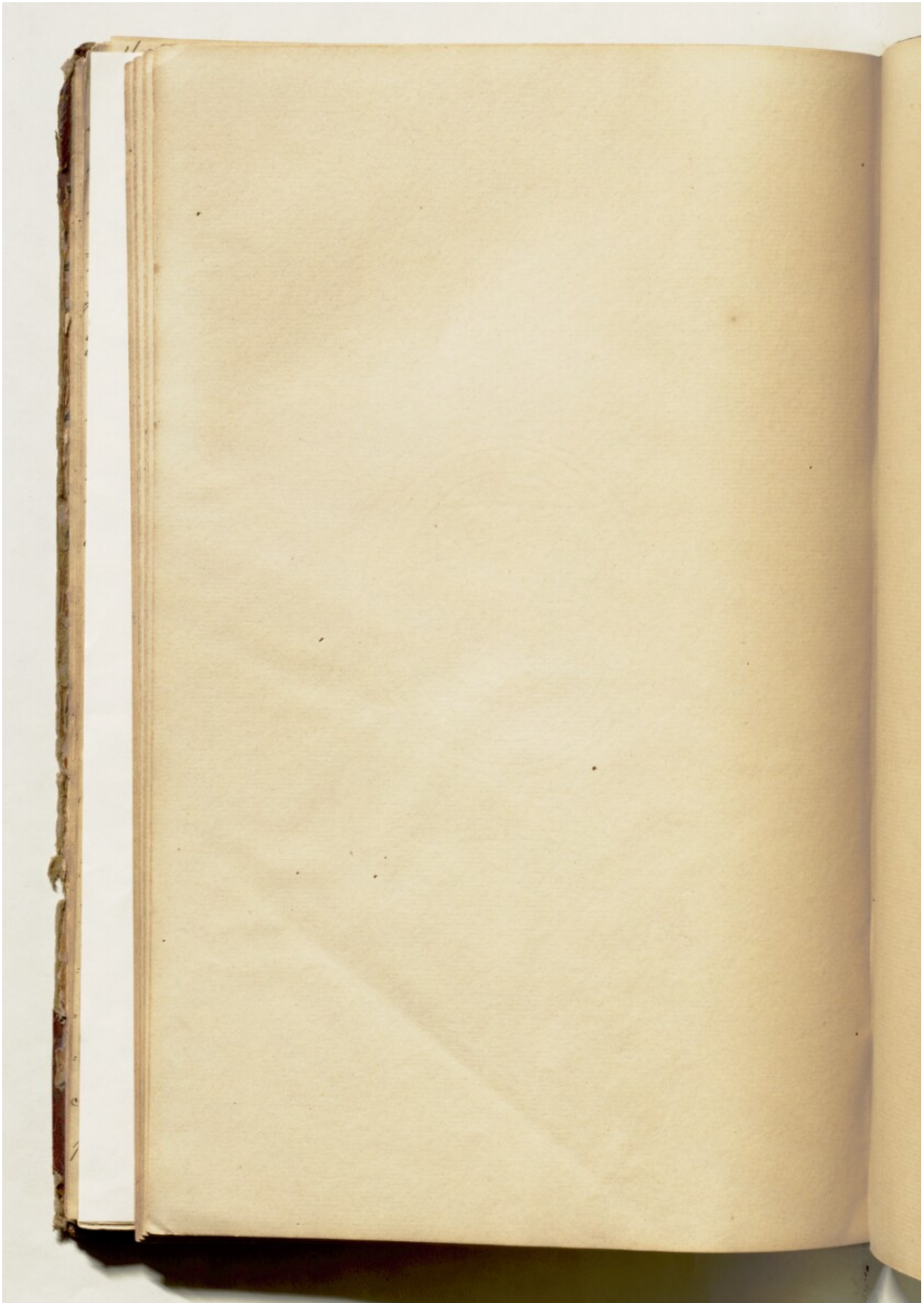


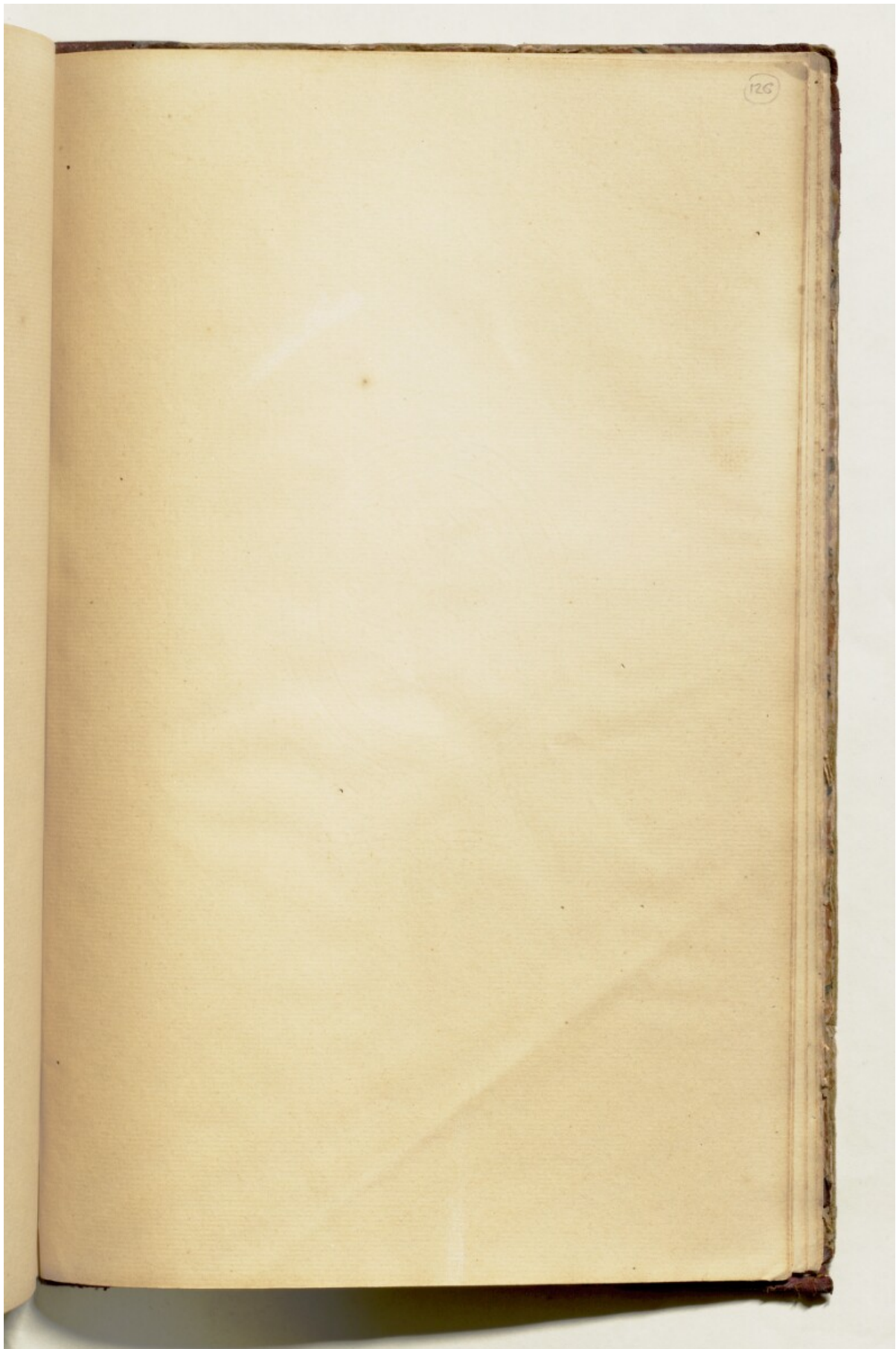


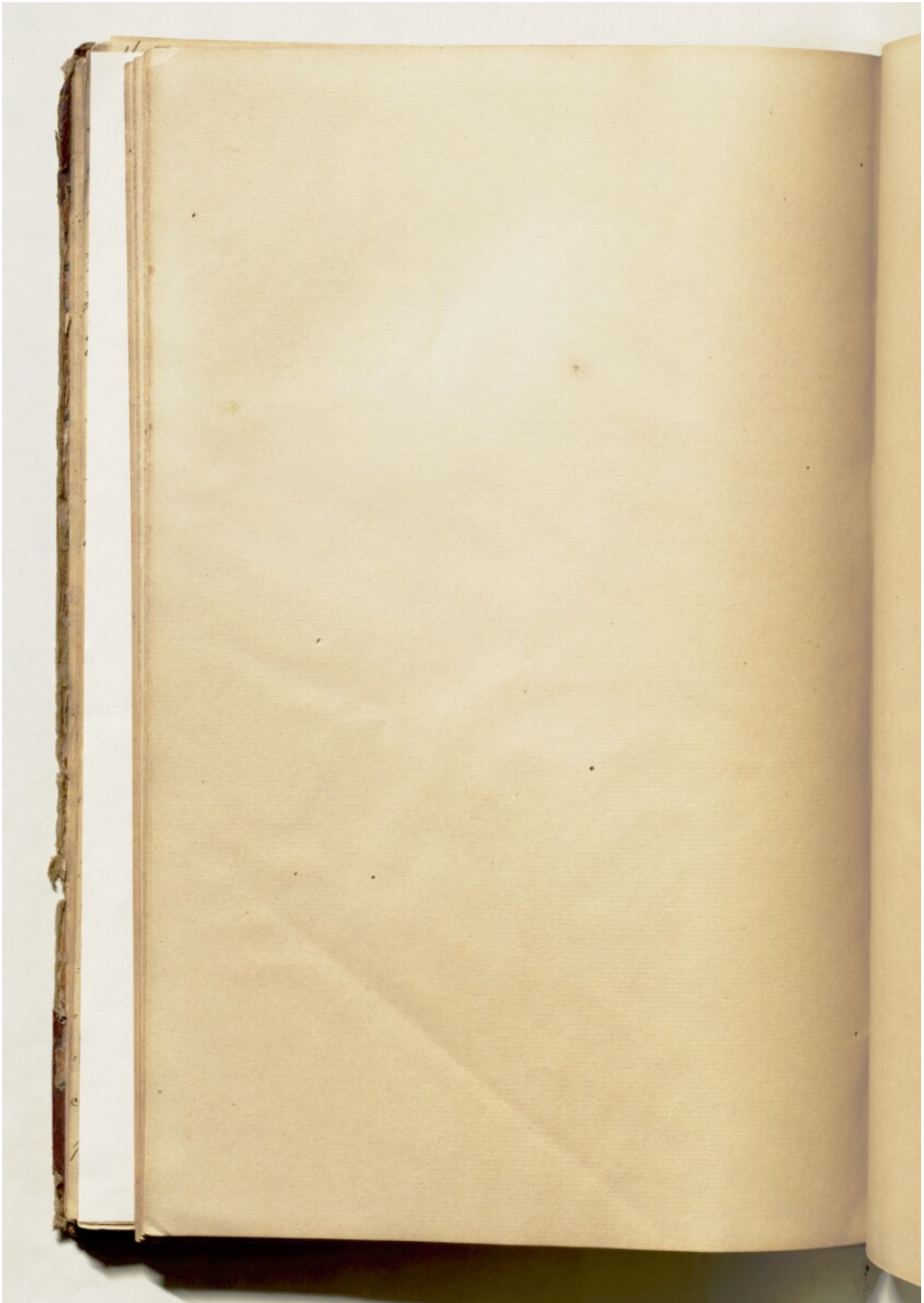


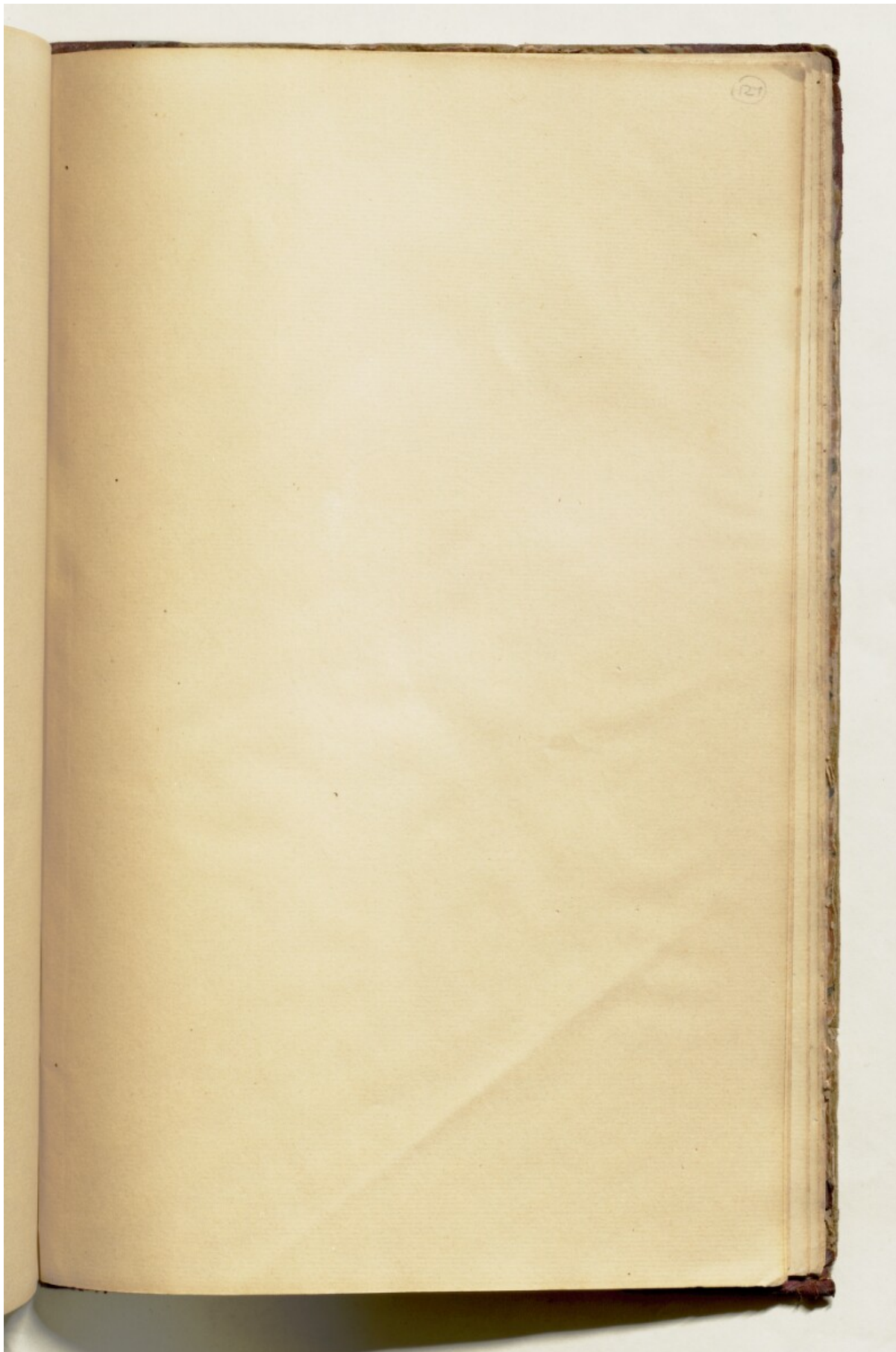


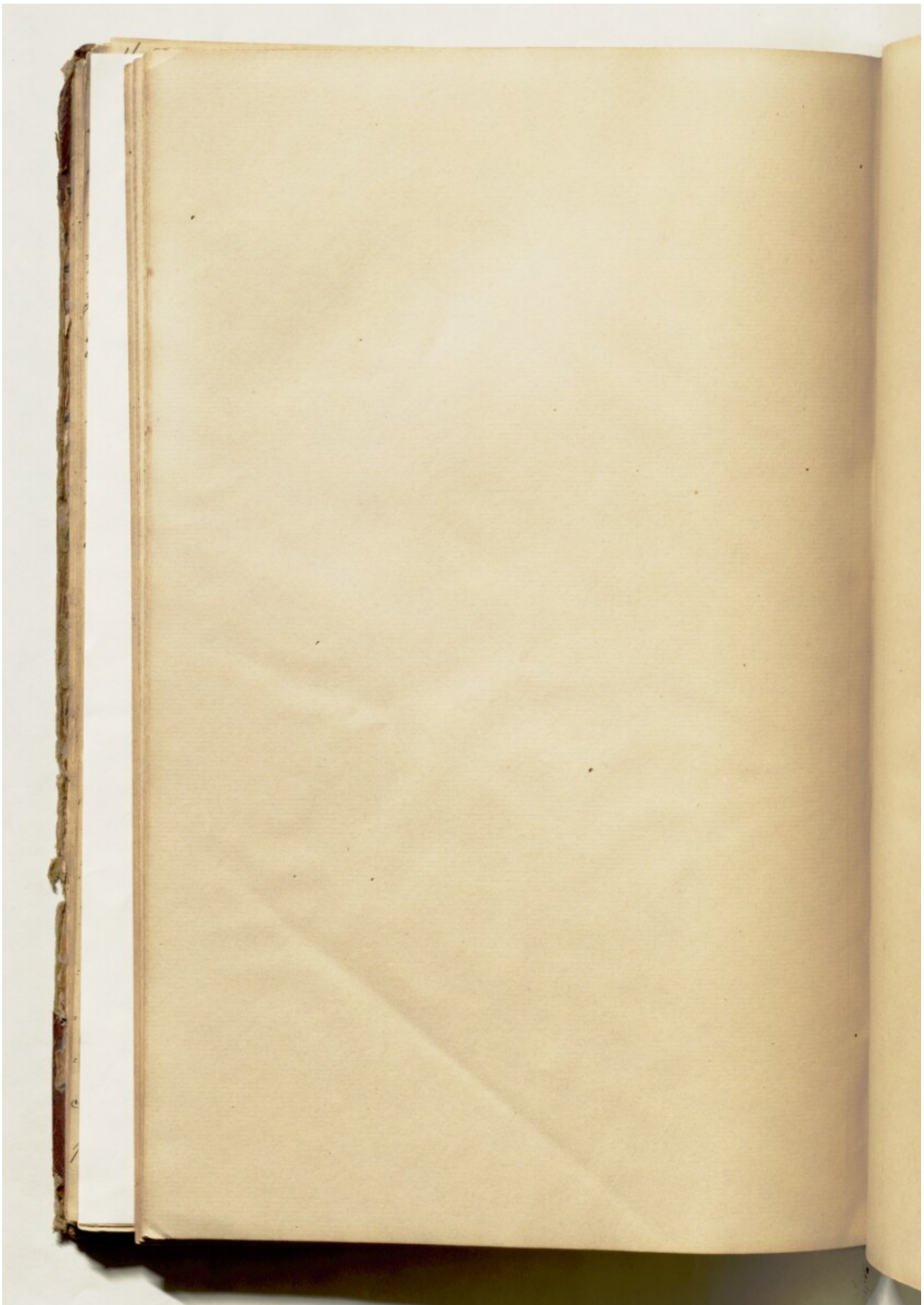


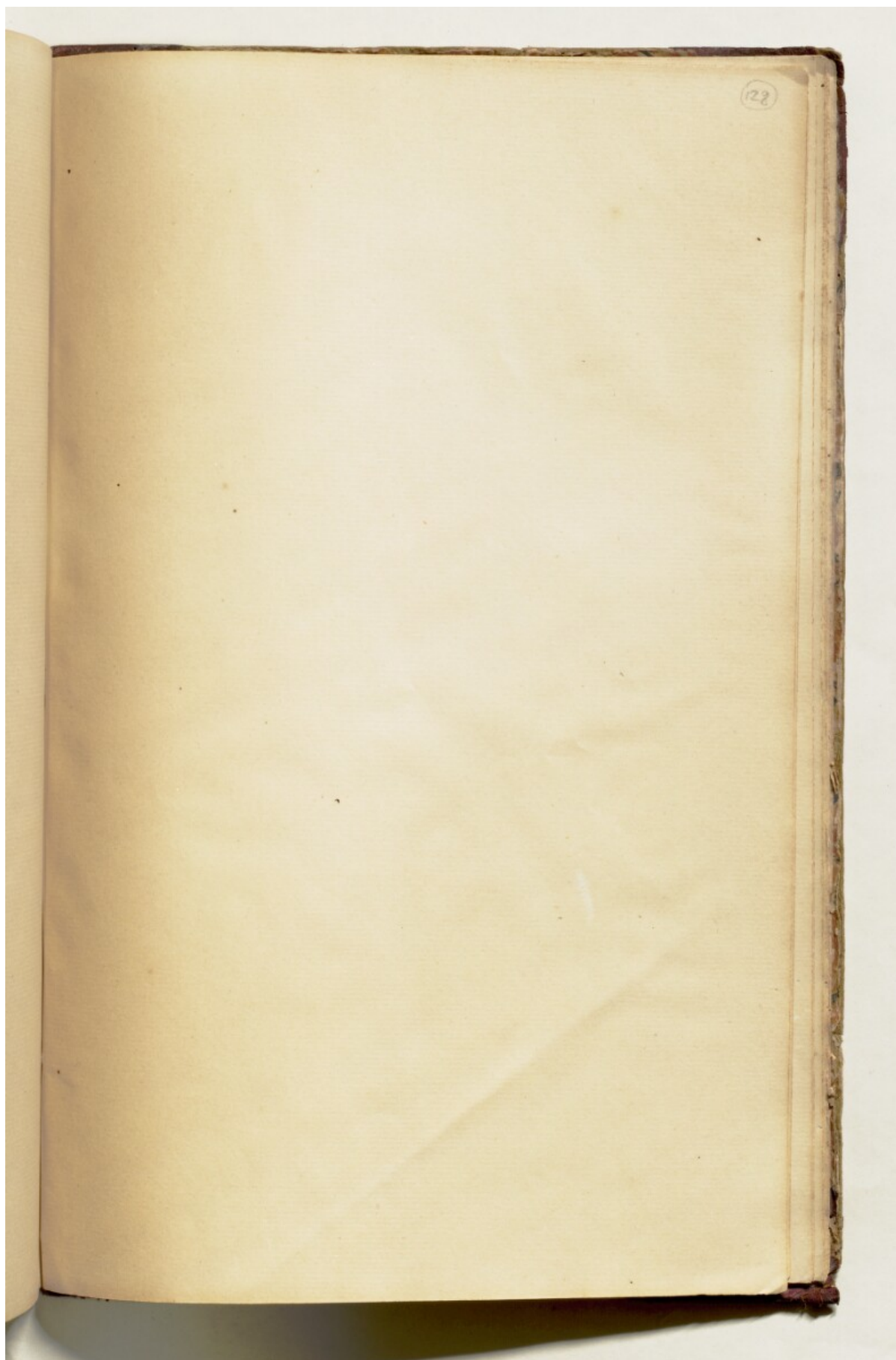


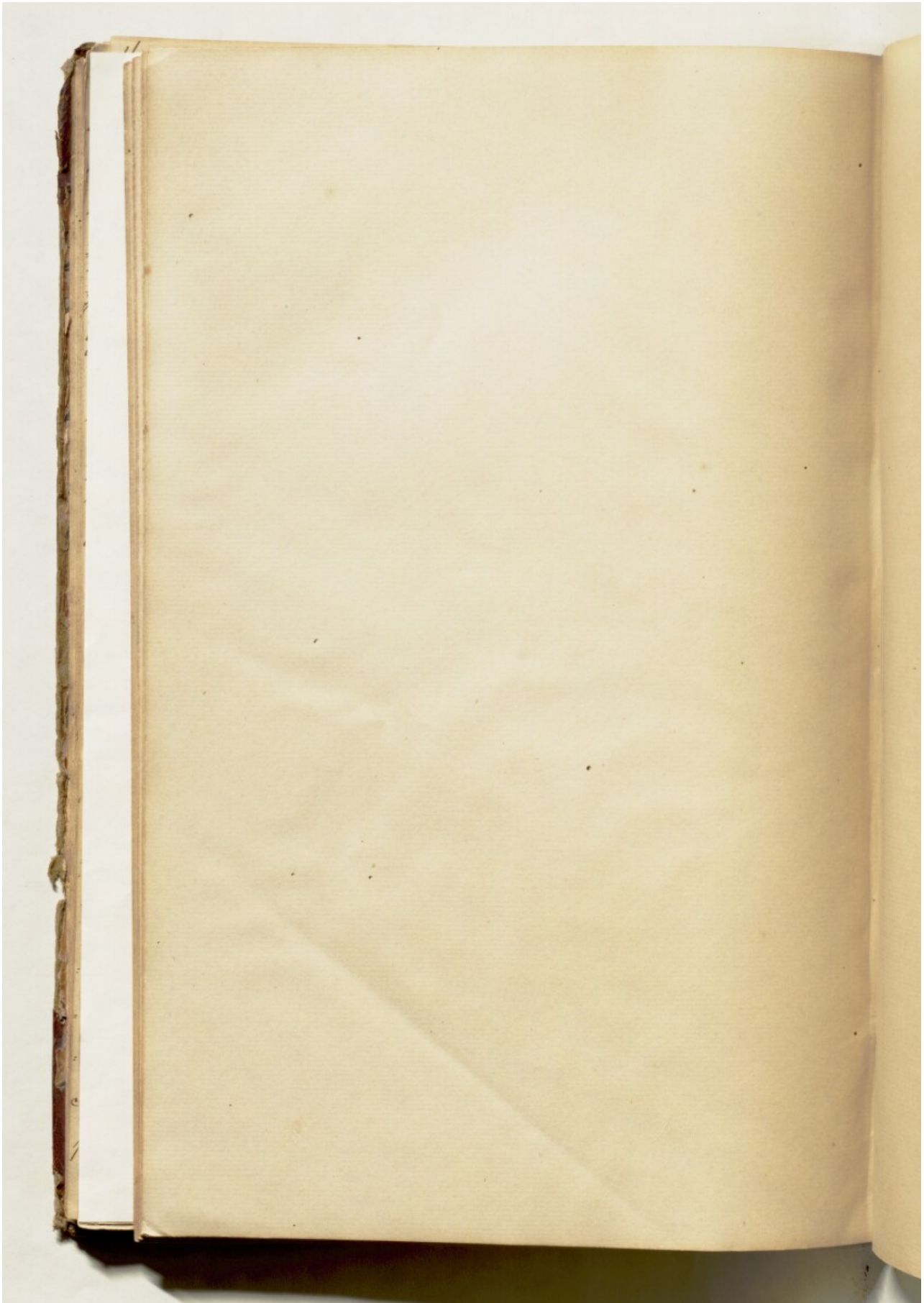


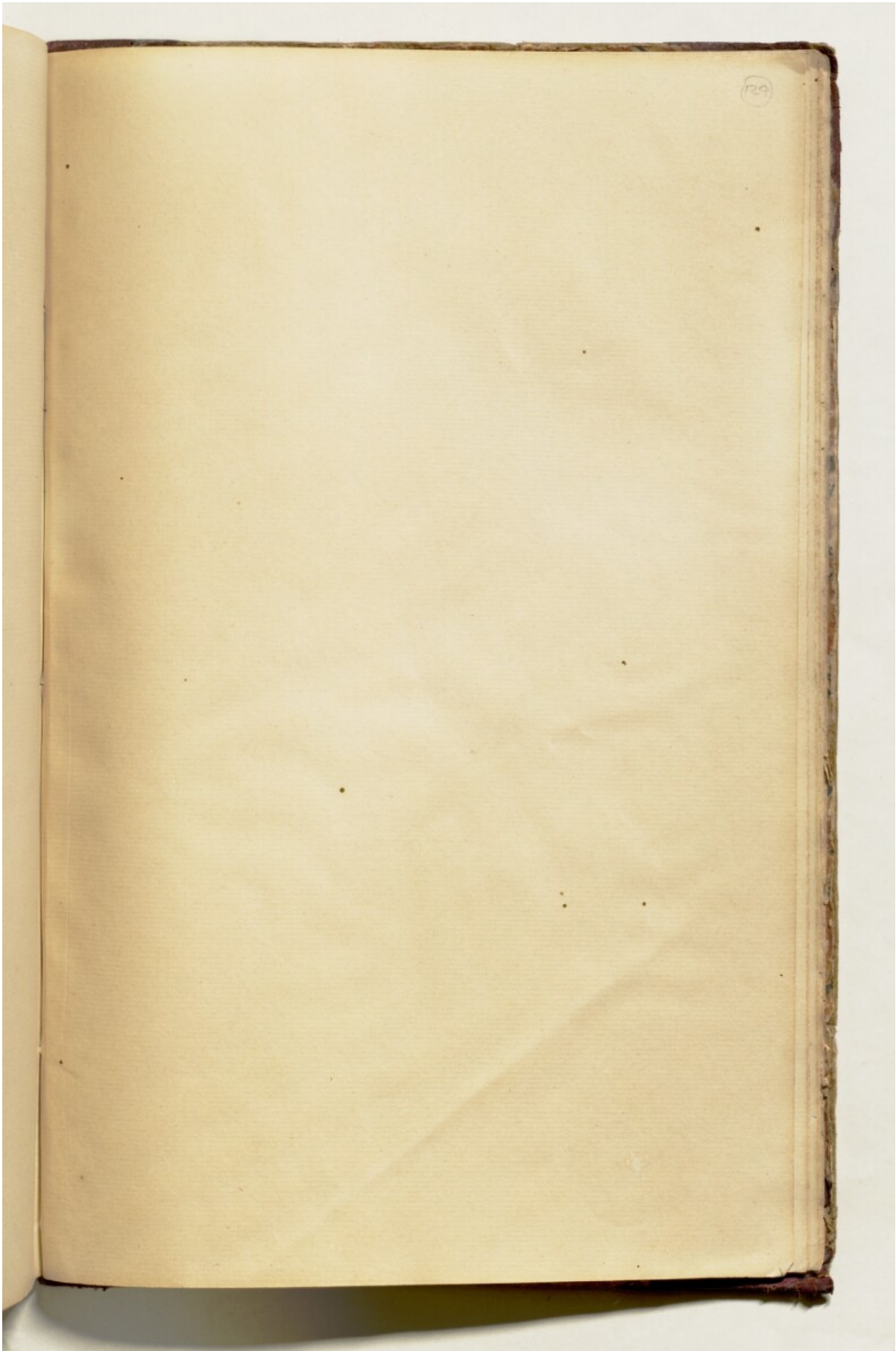


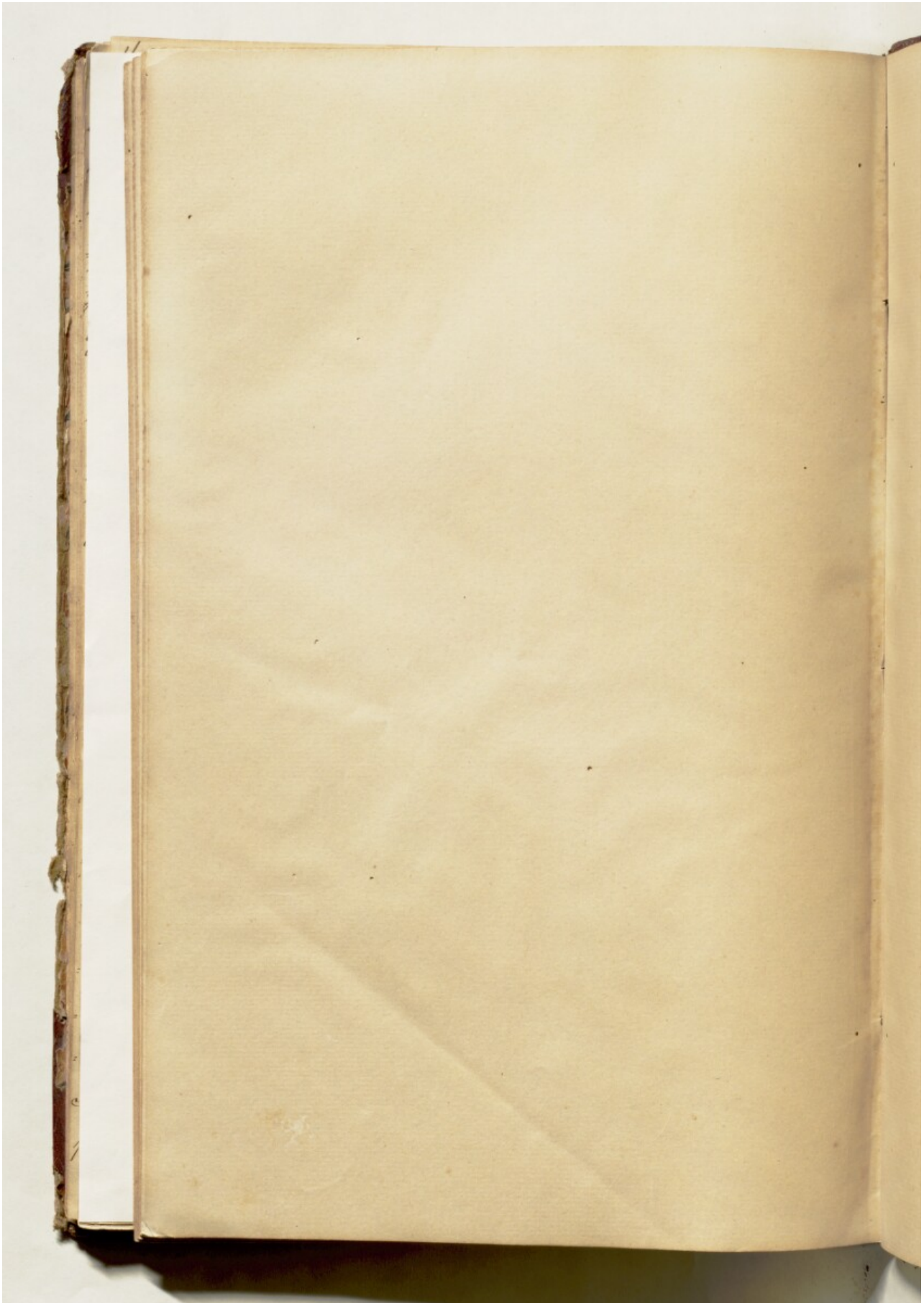


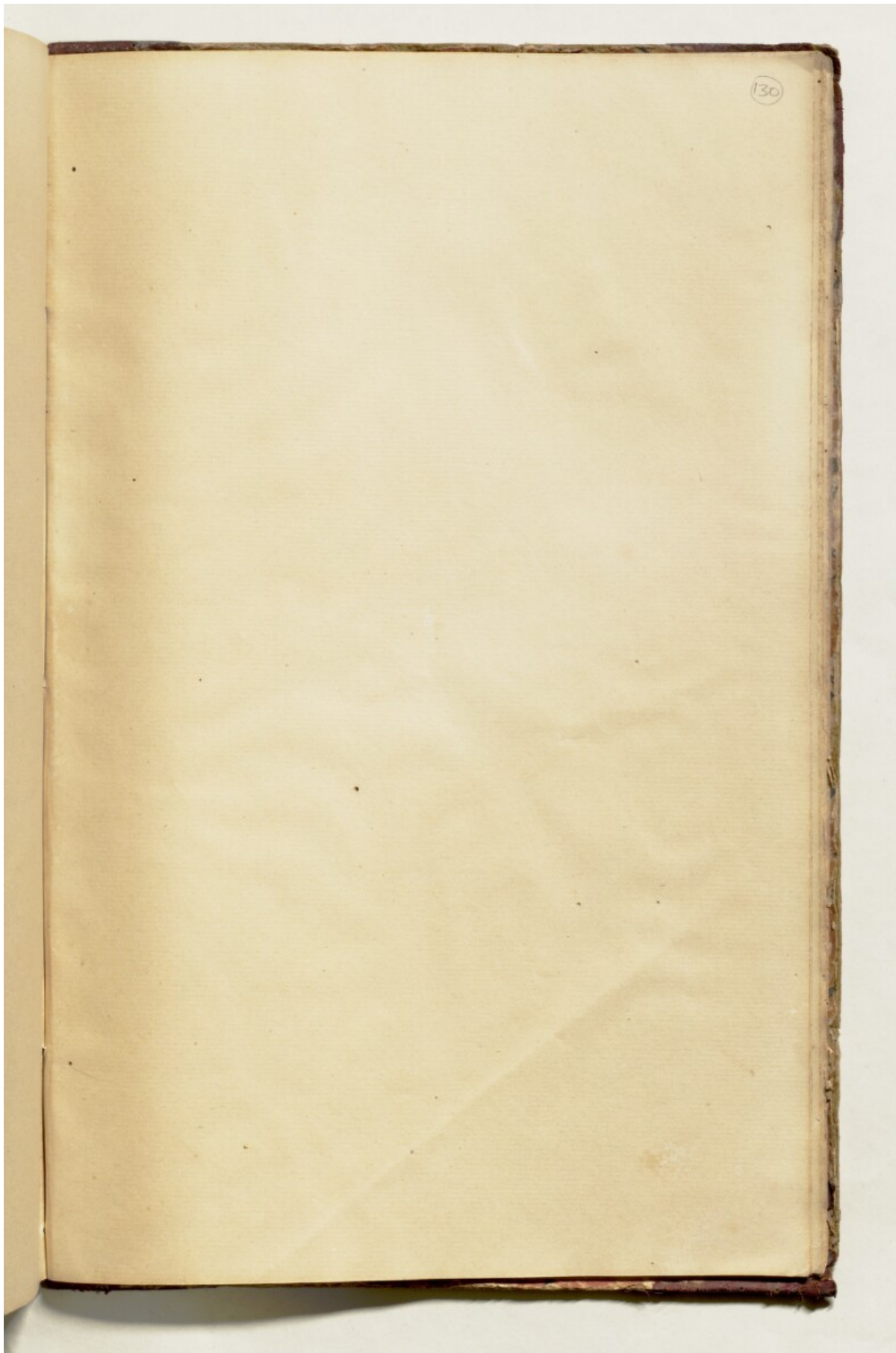


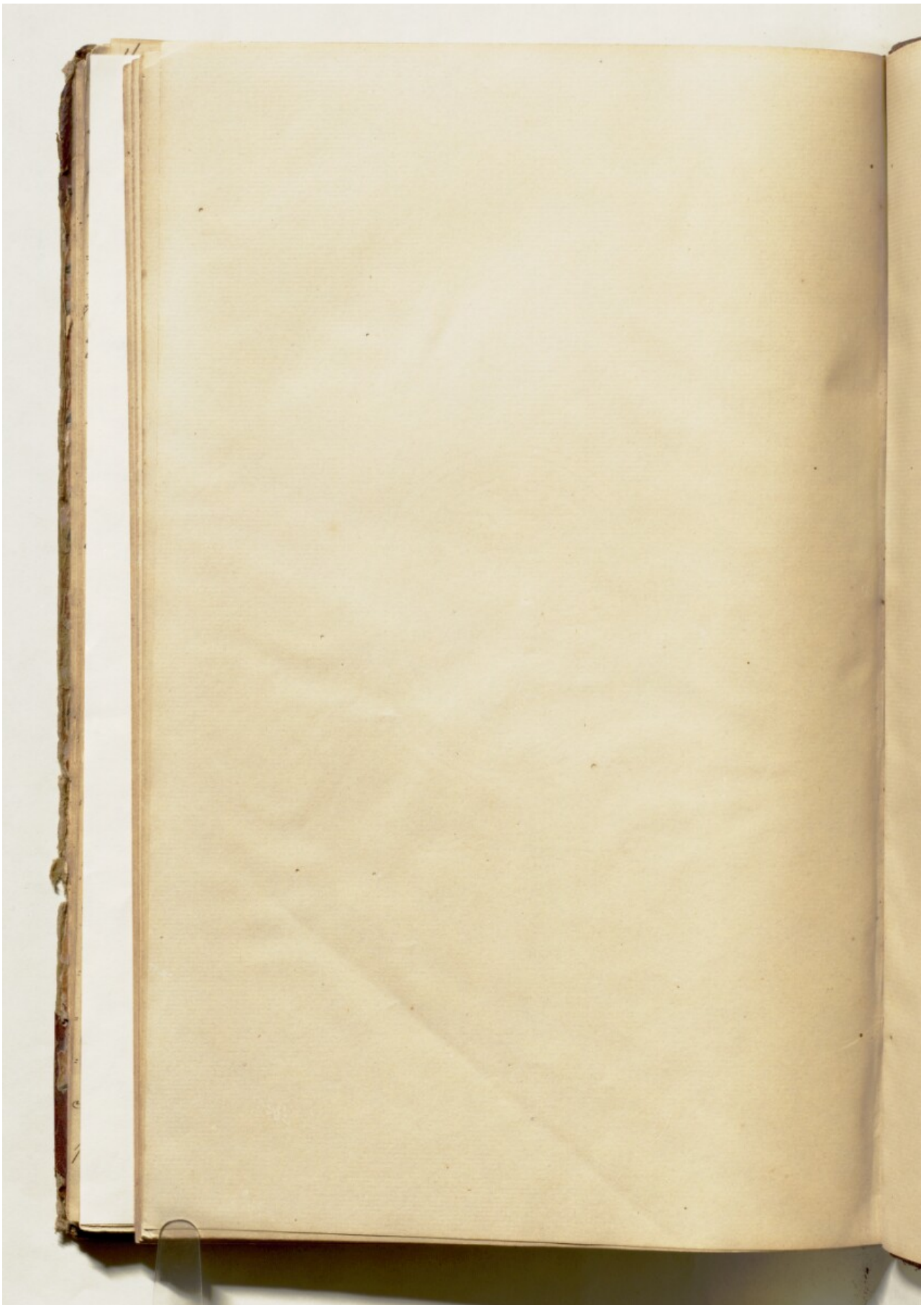


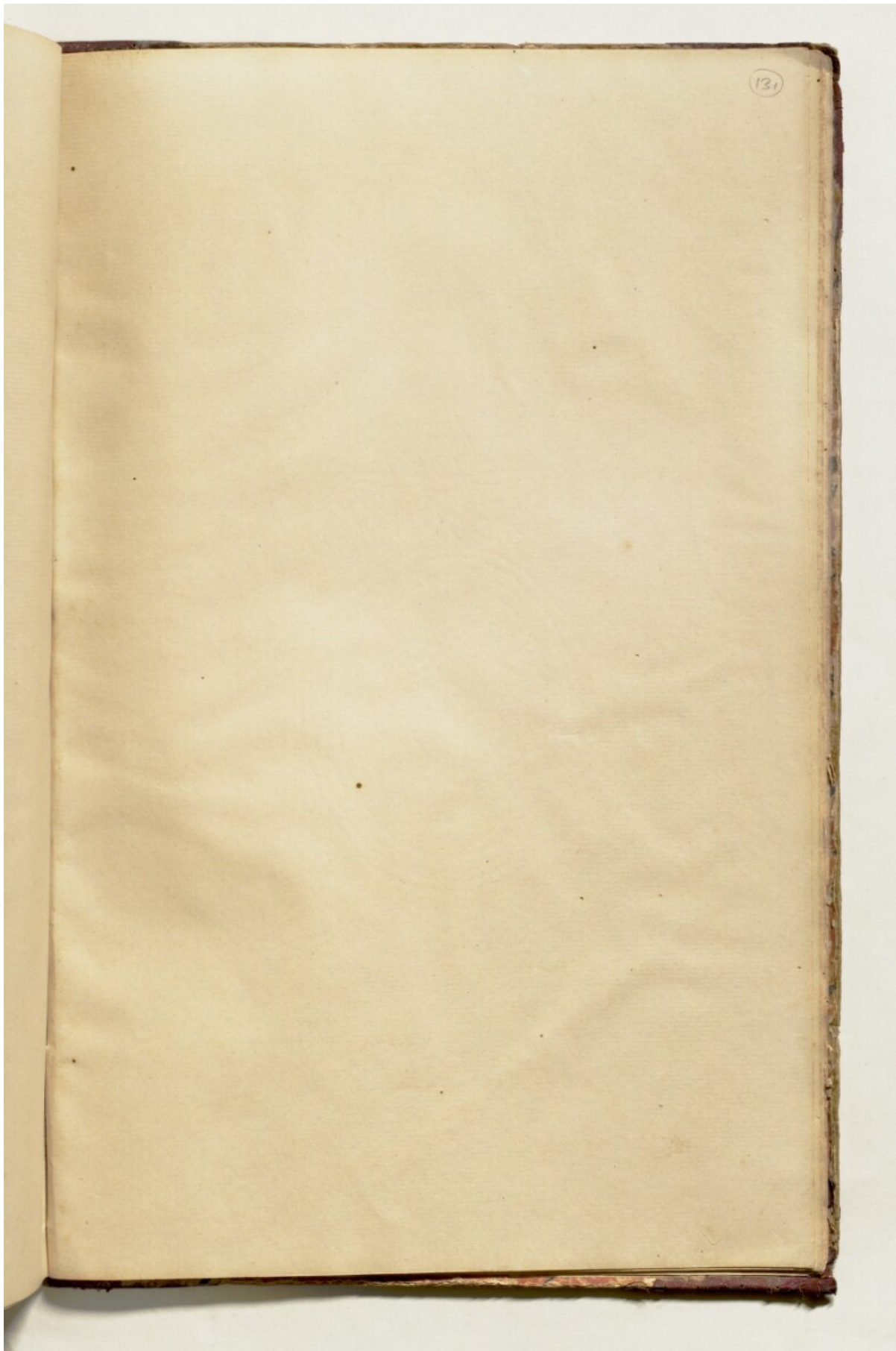


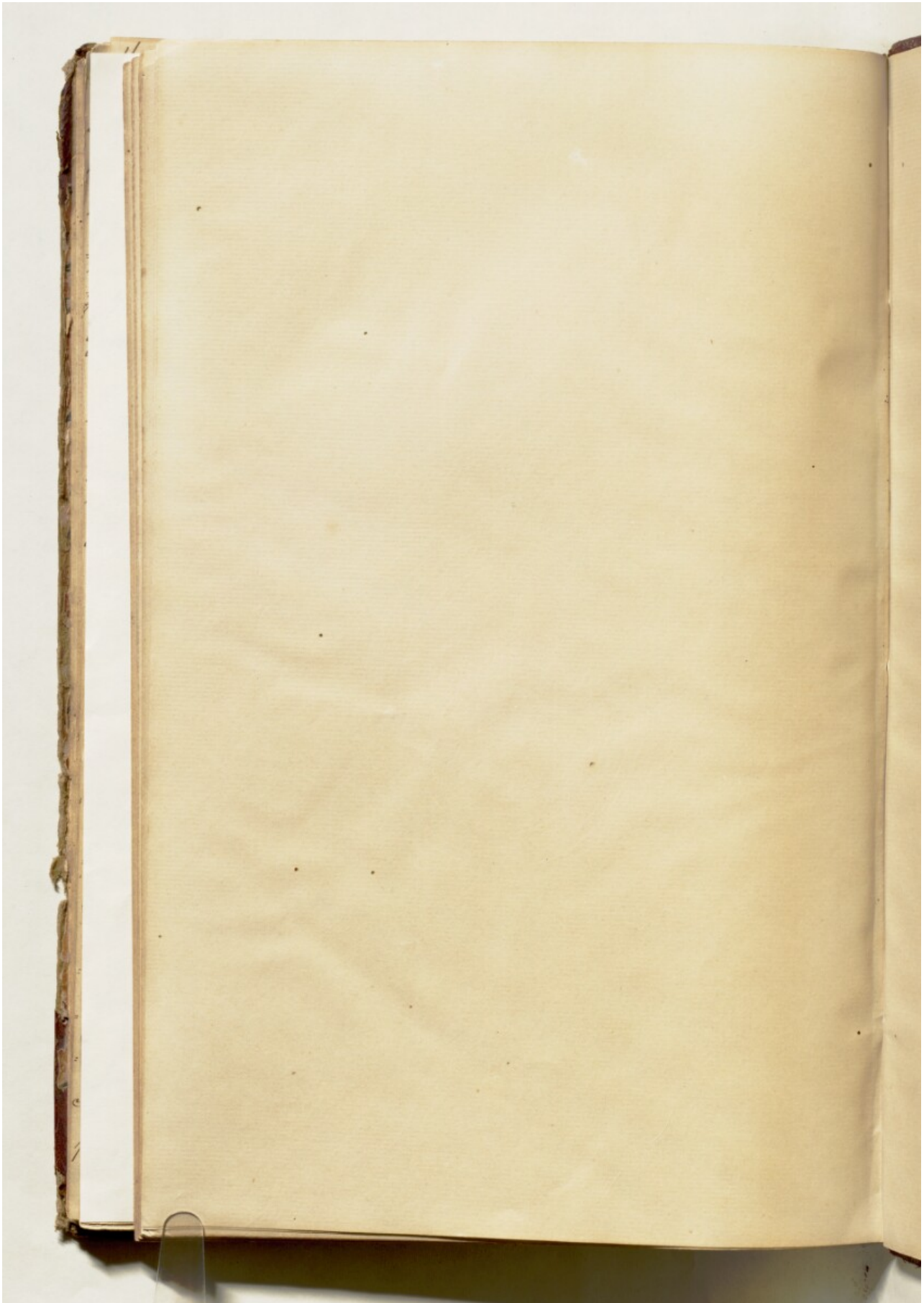


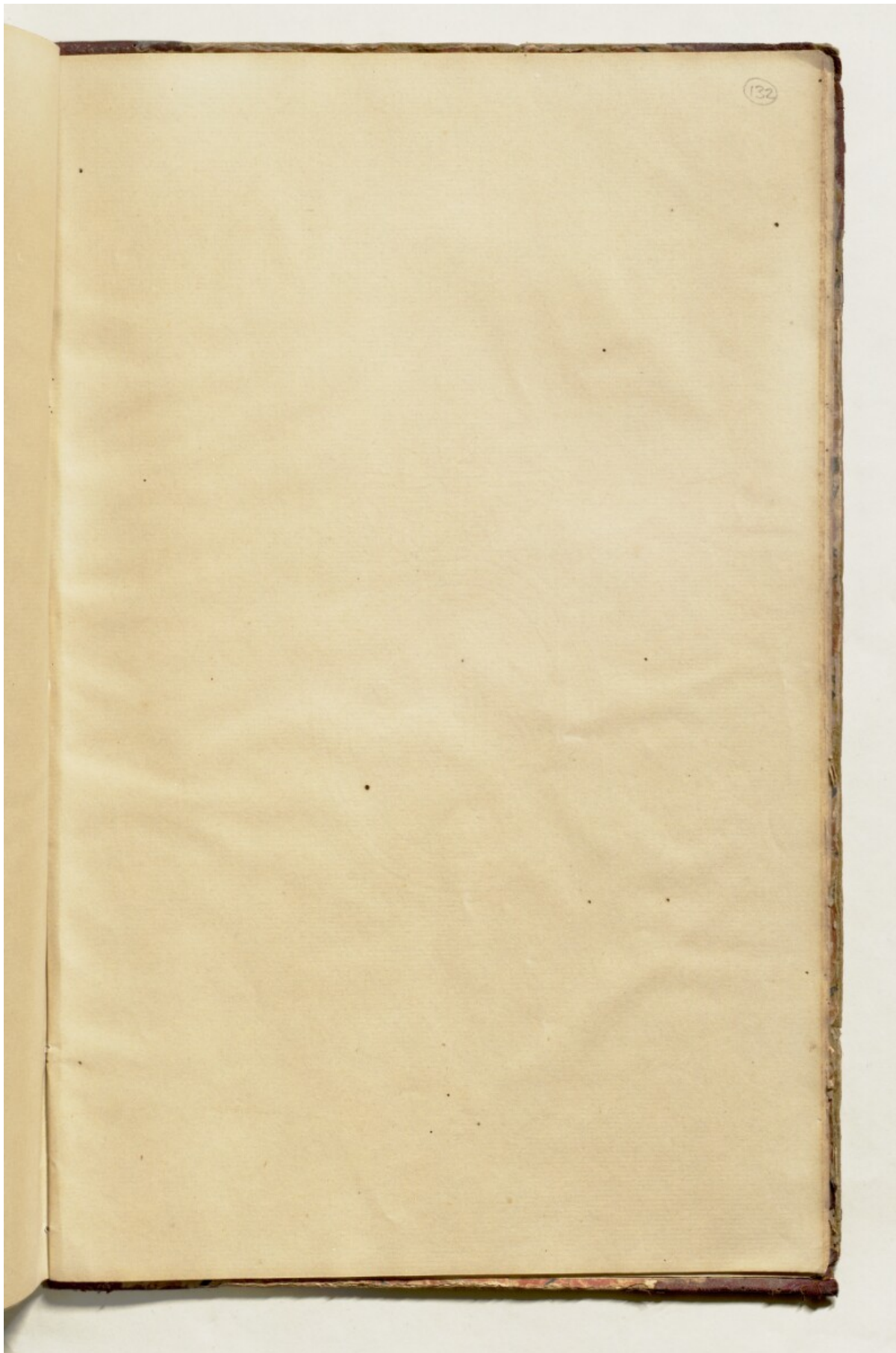


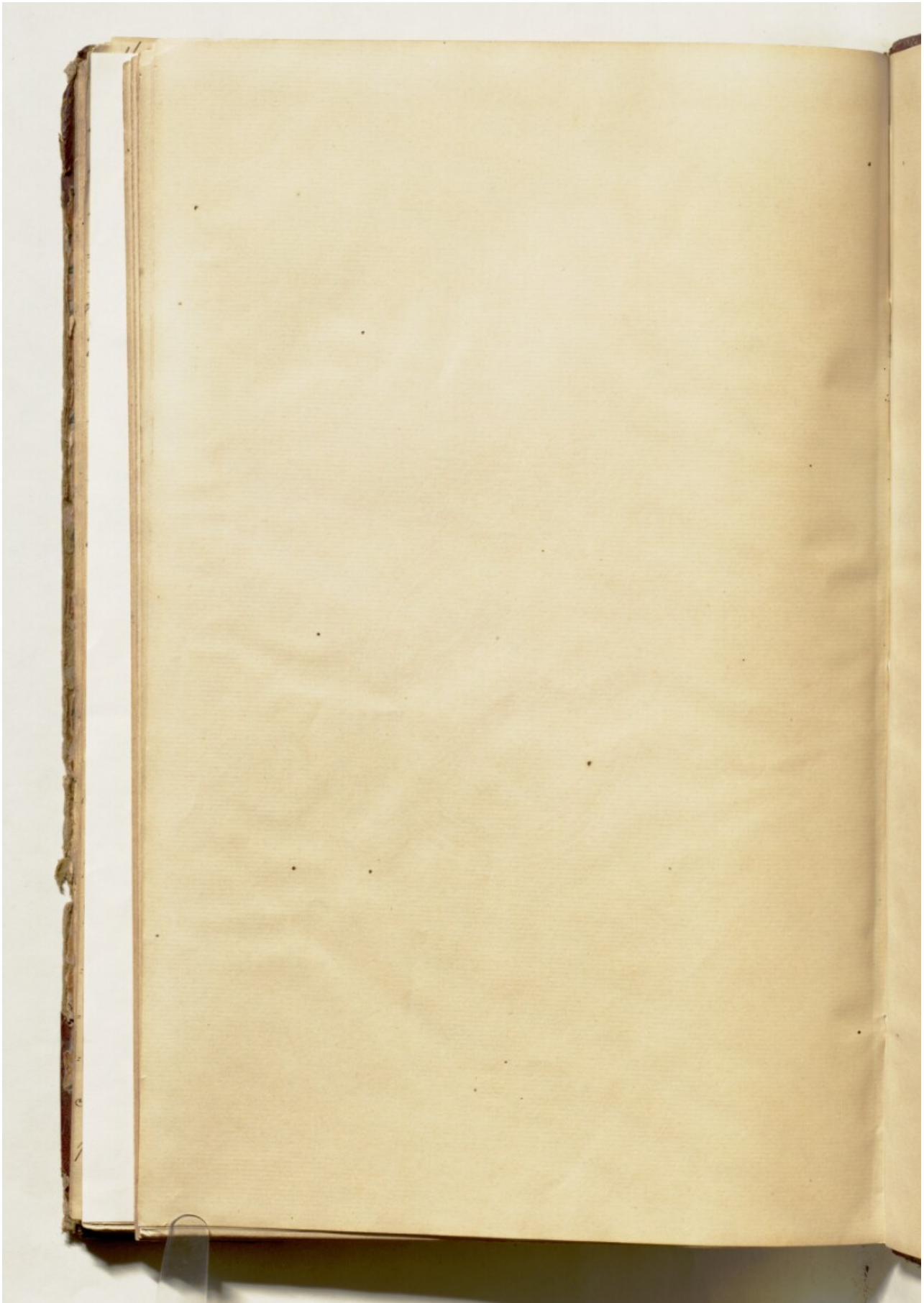


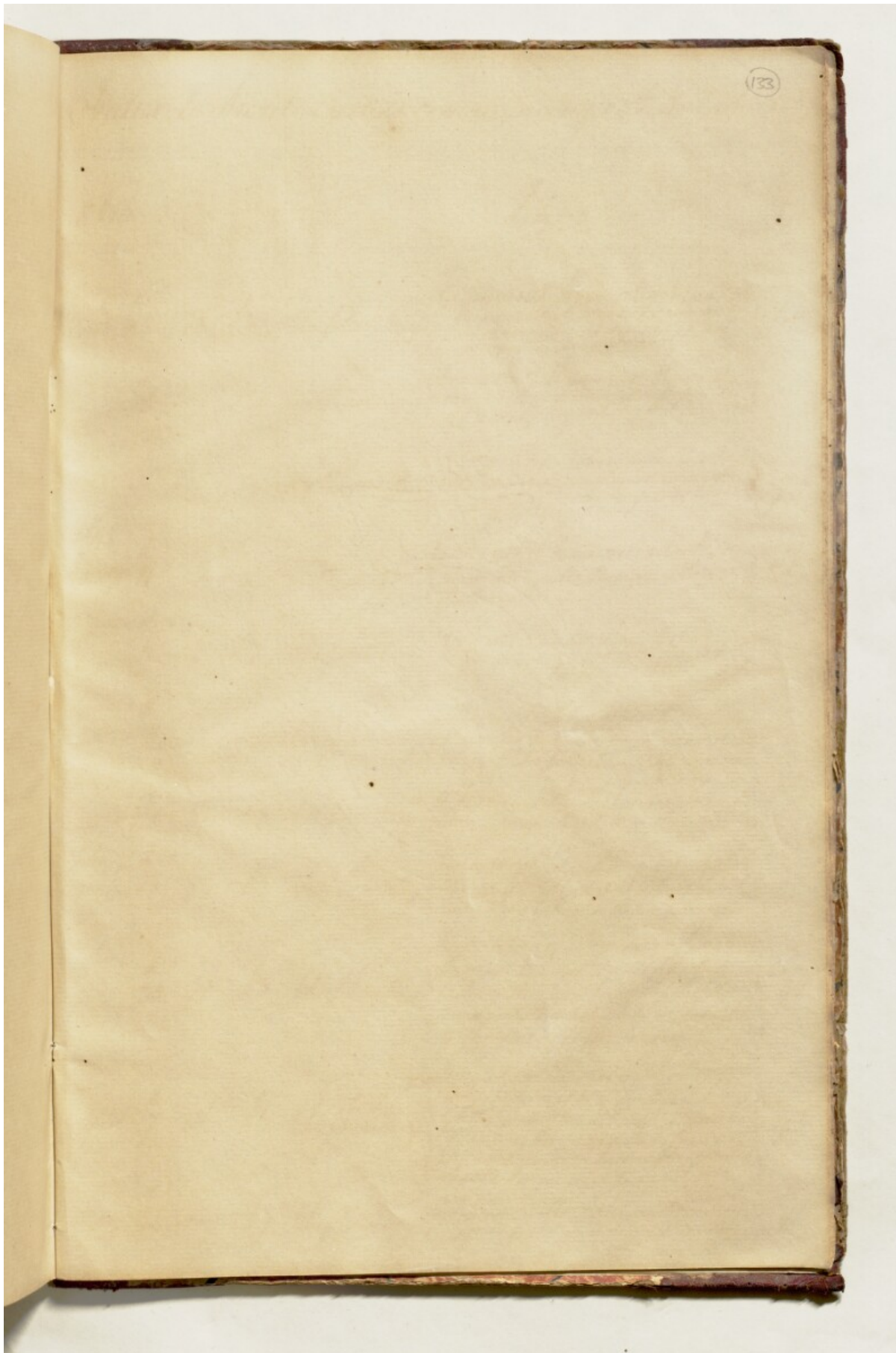


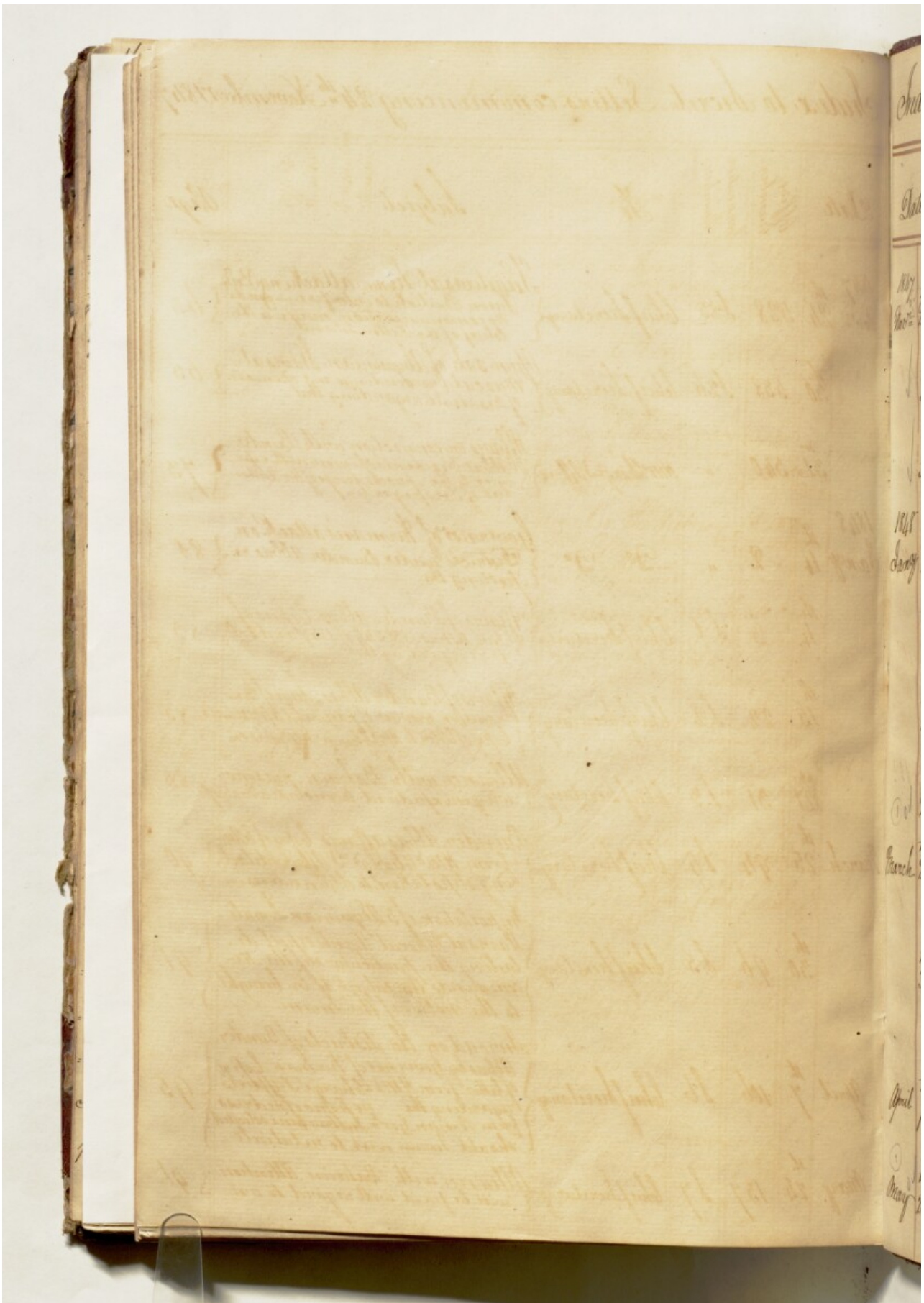














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